

OVERSEAS NEWS

Space weapons may increase threat of war, warns Gromyko

By TOM BURNS IN MADRID

MR. ANDREI GROMYKO, the Soviet Foreign Minister, warned yesterday that the possibility of a nuclear war was "no exaggeration" if the arms race was allowed to "erupt in space".

Mr. Gromyko accompanied his threat with an olive branch: "Once Star Wars projects are abandoned the possibility will be opened for a reduction—even a drastic reduction—of strategic weapons and medium-range nuclear arms."

The Soviet Foreign Minister was speaking at a Madrid Foreign Ministry reception given in his honour by Sr. Fernando Moran, the Spanish Foreign Minister, on the second day of an official visit to Spain.

While not mentioning the U.S. directly, Mr. Gromyko implicitly criticised Washington, saying there were "ridiculous attempts to convince public opinion that the path towards disarmament lies in the creation of increasingly sophisticated new types of weapons."

He said Moscow's response to such new weapons would be firm and uncompromising. "Attempts to achieve military supremacy will not be allowed to materialise either on earth

or in the cosmos," he said.

The tough speech appeared to strike a new urgency in the Soviet Union's propaganda battle over Star Wars in advance of the Geneva arms talks.

Mr. Gromyko said his conversations in Madrid had centred on "how to prevent the militarisation of space and how to contain the arms race."

The Soviet Foreign Minister's failed, however, to elicit direct Spanish support for Moscow's anti-Star Wars platform. Sr. Moran made clear that Spain was studying the issue but had no intention of taking a stand at the moment.

Mr. Gromyko, who returns to Moscow today, also failed to drive any wedges between Spain and the West over the Nato issue. Sr. Moran, in his speech at the Foreign Ministry lunch, said that "for obvious reasons," Spain forms part of the West and "defends its values and way of life."

Spain's Prime Minister, Felipe Gonzalez, favours remaining in Nato, although not as a member of the military command structure. He has promised to hold a referendum on the issue

Martial law restored in Bangladesh crackdown

By Sayed Kamaluddin in Dhaka

BANGLADESHI military leader Lt-Gen Hossain Mohammad Ershad yesterday banned all political activities and said he would hold a referendum on March 21 to seek a vote of confidence on his continuation as the country's President.

The country's six universities have been closed down indefinitely and a midnight to dawn curfew has been imposed in the capital. The curfew and other restrictions followed the President's announcement that he was re-imposing martial law and was again setting up special tribunals and summary military courts.

Lt-Gen Ershad, who took power in a bloodless military coup in March 1982, denounced opposition parties which had threatened to boycott parliamentary elections planned for April 6 and said that "martial law would be applied with full force" until conditions were suitable.

Lt-Gen Ershad had recently relaxed the application of martial law, partially restored fundamental rights and released a number of convicted political prisoners in an apparent bid to create a "congenial atmosphere" for elections.

Since May last year the authorities shifted dates of parliamentary elections three times in what they claimed was an effort to "persuade the key opposition parties to participate."

Yester-day Lt-Gen Ershad said that it was now clear that a referendum was the only way to ascertain public opinion, although he did not rule out the possibility of holding elections at a later date.

Farm compromise

Mr. Jesse Helms, chairman of the Senate agriculture committee, has responded to the Reagan Administration's radical farm Bill with a compromise plan providing for more generous price supports for farmers, our Foreign Staff report.

Mr. Helms, who is also chairman of the Senate subcommittee on farm income, said he had agreed with the Reagan Administration's radical farm Bill with a compromise plan providing for more generous price supports for farmers, our Foreign Staff report.

Confusion surrounds key decisions on the budget and enlargements, Quentin Peel reports

Fog descends on EEC's deliberations

A DENSE fog descended on Europe this week. It not only wreaked havoc with airline schedules and road transport, it also left considerable chaos and confusion in the deliberations of the European Community.

As EEC foreign ministers were left stranded in various airports on their way to an extraordinary meeting in Brussels, or delayed for hours in their efforts to attend, the deals they were supposed to agree on bringing Spain and Portugal into the Community, on financing the hole in their budget plans, and on buying off Greece with a generous package of spending programmes, were left in a similar state of disarray.

There was confusion yesterday over just what had and had not been agreed in the talks that day in Brussels, and the Franco-German summit meeting in Paris.

And there was not a little alarm that the end result of all the fog was a step backwards from the starting point of the discussions, instead of a notable advance.

In the first place the fog delayed the morning talks between President Francois Mitterrand and Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Paris, and prevented their Foreign Ministers, Mr. Roland Dumas and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher from flying to Brussels.

That meant the accord they reached on the interminable problem of how to finance the cash-straitened EEC budget had to be explained over the telephone to Brussels, leaving many people in the dark.

In turn, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the British Foreign Secretary, never left London to attend the talks and spell out his own position on an issue which affects Britain most closely, because of its promised Ecu 1bn (£570m) cut in budget contri-

butions this year.

Sig. Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Foreign Minister and current president of the EEC Council of Ministers, was held up on his way from Rome, although he only arrived an hour later than planned.

As for Mr. Theodoros Pangalos, the Greek Minister responsible for European affairs, he was stranded in Lyons on his way to Brussels, where he was supposed to spell out his government's position on the disputed question of spending plans for the Mediterranean regions.

In Paris, the French and West German leaders put together a deal on the budget which would allow more money to be paid over by the member states in 1985, provided the enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal is first agreed. Equally, it seems to suggest that no money will be forthcoming until later if the negotiations drag on, and

accession is not formally ratified by all concerned until next year.

Yet when the deal was presented in Brussels by Herr Jürgen Schubert, the West German Minister of State, was greeted by his French counterpart, Mme Catherine Lalumière, as "ill-starred." Only as the talks progressed did she imply it might be acceptable to her government.

But the package was regarded with some consternation by Britain, whose officials saw the plan as a new attempt to link the reduction in Britain's budget contributions to the ultimate enlargement of the Community.

Yesterday all sides were at pains to explain their positions, without casting much more light on the situation.

The French view was that the whole plan was viewed in so optimistic a light, assuming that the Ten would all finalise

the talks with Spain and Portugal by the end of March, and hence be able to ratify the accession treaties and the decision to increase their budget contributions before the end of the year.

The British stressed that their Ecu 1bn cut in contributions had been promised in 1985, and they would not approve any plan which failed to meet that deadline.

As for the West Germans, they admit that delayed enlargement would mean that no money would be available for the British reduction before the end of the year.

The Foreign Ministers and their alternatives gave up their talks on Thursday night in some confusion, and now it is up to their national officials to clear the mists.

Even if they manage to cope with the budgetary problem, however, they still have to cope with Greece and the Mediterranean question.

Room likely to compromise over car emission controls

By PETER BRUCE IN BONN

WEST GERMAN efforts unilaterally to introduce emission controls on cars sold in West Germany from 1989, are now thought certain to be watered down after the Community's environment ministers meet to discuss the move in Brussels next Thursday.

Bonn has begun a last-minute round of hurried negotiations with its EEC partners, most of whom oppose the move for fear of it affecting sales of foreign cars in West Germany. In an effort at least to win some sympathy for its position.

However it became clear yesterday, following talks here be-

tween Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the West German Interior Minister, and Mr. Stanley Clinton-Davis, the Brussels Environment Commissioner, that the West German side has resigned itself to compromise. Commission officials said both men had agreed that a "political" solution to the problem would have to be found.

Mr. Clinton-Davis, one of Britain's two commissioners in Brussels, said after his talks that "failure to find a solution on Thursday will have serious ramifications for the unity of the Common Market and for the development of the European car industry."

Mr. Clinton-Davis, one of Britain's two commissioners in Brussels, said after his talks that "failure to find a solution on Thursday will have serious ramifications for the unity of the Common Market and for the development of the European car industry."

Argentina reiterates pledge to honour debt

By JIMMY BURNS IN BUENOS AIRES

ARGENTINA again moved to reassure its creditors that the abrupt switch in its economic team will not undermine the country's determination to stick to its debt obligations.

In his first detailed policy statement since becoming Economy Minister, Sr. Juan Sourrouille, aimed only a cordial effort to reduce the country's spiralling inflation rate at the lynch pin of the country's short-term economic programme.

"We shall go on honouring the agreement signed with the International Monetary Fund and the commercial banks, although we shall continue to seek a more global discussion

of the debt problem in co-operation with other Latin American member countries of the Cartagena group," Sr. Sourrouille said in a nationwide broadcast on Thursday night.

Claiming that Argentina was facing an "economic emergency," the Minister urged his fellow countrymen to reconcile their politically motivated demands on state resources with a "more rational and efficient handling of the economy."

Sr. Sourrouille outlined the following main instruments for battling with the country's three digit inflation, restoring growth, and improving the debt service ratio.

● A greater control on government spending. There is to be no further transfer of Treasury funds this year to the country's leading state companies, as well as a sharp increase in transport and energy prices as a way of reducing further Government subsidies.

● Fiscal reform, and a clampdown on tax evasion. The Government will soon present Parliament with new legislation increasing income and property taxation for higher wage earners and to improve the efficiency of tax inspectors.

● Financial reform. This will focus on a reduction in the number of bank branches and the

re-orientation of domestic credit away from speculation and towards productive investment. Interest rates have been increased by 2 per cent on the regulated financial market to soak up excess liquidity.

● An export-led economic recovery. The main export boost will come from agriculture and greater foreign investment in the development of the country's natural energy resources.

Business sectors yesterday reacted cautiously to Sr. Sourrouille's speech, weighing his apparent pragmatism and moderation against his deliberate vagueness on the two politically sensitive issues, wages and exchange policy.

Kyprianou spurns call to resign

By Andrew Hadjilovopoulos in Nicosia

CYPRUS's political and constitutional crisis deepened further yesterday as President Spyros Kyprianou turned down demands from two opposition parties that he should resign and call early presidential elections.

In a radio and television broadcast last night Mr. Kyprianou dismissed charges that he did not want a Cyprus settlement and said he would starve in office to pursue his efforts for "a just and viable" solution to the divided island problems. A solution he said which should ensure an end to the Turkish occupation and not a temporary and short-lived one.

Mr. Kyprianou was responding to a vote of censure in the House of Representatives last week adopted by the Communist Akel and the right-wing Democratic Rally Parties which together represent two thirds of the Greek Cypriot electorate and hold 25 of the 35 seats in the House.

The censure vote criticised his conduct of talks with Mr. Zeki Denktash, Turkish Cypriot leader in New York in January. It asked him to accept, without delay, a draft accord worked out by the United Nations Secretary General which provided for a bicomunal federation in Cyprus.

In his broadcast the President said if he accepted the will of the two parties in their "open and free" alliance, "he would irrevocably have ceded presidential powers emanating from the constitution, for all future presidents, creating constitutional disorder in the country."

German officials meet in Bonn

The first high-level meeting took place yesterday between East and West German officials since Herr Erich Honecker, East Germany's leader, cancelled a planned visit to West Germany last September at the request of the Soviet Union, writes Leslie Collett in Berlin.

Herr Hermann Axen, East Germany's influential Politburo secretary in charge of international relations, met West Germany's Foreign Minister, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and Herr Wolfgang Schäuble, the head of the West German Federal Chancellery in Bonn. Herr Genscher and Herr Axen said the two states could make an important contribution to improving East-West relations.

Luxembourg TV satellite scheme excludes Coronet

By RAYMOND SNOODY

LUXEMBOURG yesterday set up a private sector company to distribute programmes via its own satellite to cable television networks all over Europe.

The company, the European Satellite Television Corporation (ESTC), has the backing of Belgian, West German and Luxembourg banks and Swedish, Danish, and Danish companies.

The company excludes Dr. Claude Whitehead, former director of the U.S. Office of Telecommunications Policy who first suggested the concept of a Luxembourg satellite financed by private capital.

Mr. Pierre Werner, the former Luxembourg Prime Minister,

signed an agreement with Dr. Whitehead last May. Dr. Whitehead's company, Coronet, was to operate a satellite from Luxembourg's orbital position although Luxembourg financial institutions would dominate the holding company.

The new Luxembourg Government of Mr. Jacques Santer felt the Coronet project was insufficiently European and had only attracted one or two investors so far.

The aim would be to launch a satellite next year. The Luxembourg state savings and investment banks will each take 10 per cent of the project and have one third of the voting shares.

Ortega and Shultz plan meeting in Montevideo

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and Mr. George Shultz, the U.S. Secretary of State, will meet in Montevideo today to discuss the possibility of reviving Central American peace negotiations, U.S. officials said yesterday, AP reports.

The two officials are here heading their respective delegations for the inauguration of Uruguay's President Julio Sanguinetti, after nearly 12 years of military rule.

Mr. Shultz and Sr. Ortega both expressed interest in face-to-face discussions on the initiative announced Wednesday by Nicaragua, but there was a delay in arranging the

meeting as each waited for the other to extend a formal invitation.

U.S. officials, who asked not to be identified, said the impasse was broken when Nicaragua formally requested the meeting through diplomatic channels.

"David Welton," from Montevideo, Nicaragua's Foreign Minister, Sr. Miguel D'Escoto, said: "We bank on this occasion to begin to talk about the normalisation of our bilateral relations with the United States." Bilateral talks between the two countries that got started last June in Manzanillo, Mexico, have been suspended by the Reagan Administration since January.

Asahi shares soar on 'cancer cure' report

By JUREK MARTIN IN TOKYO

In Tokyo there were outstanding buy orders for another 90m shares.

Thursday's Tokyo volume, when reports first began to circulate, reached 21.7m shares. On the quiet of Monday it had been a more typical 12m.

Altogether the company has 1.13m shares outstanding. Nomura Securities, Asahi Chemical's underwriter, began offering shares in London on Thursday and one foreign reporter said that his firm had snapped up 600,000 at ¥720; yesterday, he added, he had bought at least another 1m.

On the day, 54.57m Asahi Chemical shares were traded in Tokyo, and a further 8m in Osaka; at the end of the session

magazine operating in Tokyo, the other by Nature, of the U.K., whose article was subsequently given banner headlines on Thursday by the London evening Press.

The thrust of the Japanese article was that Asahi Chemical and its U.S. research associate, the Beckman Laboratories of the City of Hope, California, would be the first to proceed with clinical trials of human TNF (tumour necrosis factor).

Though this was far from clear yesterday, Asahi Chemical may also be the first to file product patents for human TNF, ahead of its apparent principal rivals, a collaboration between Genentech of the U.S. and Fujisawa of Japan.

Ms. Sue Thompson, Jardine Fleming's pharmaceuticals specialist in Tokyo, warned that the actual situation was extremely confusing involving, as it did, secret and highly competitive research operations. She also noted that though TNF research on rabbits had looked promising and human TNF is said to be 10 times as powerful as aspirin, yet still unfulfilled, hopes had been kindled in the past for alpha interferon.

Of the five groups known to be deeply into TNF research, four involve Japanese concerns—Asahi Chemical (with City of Hope), Fujisawa (with Genentech), Daiippon and Sanofi (with BASF and Biogen); Cetus of the U.S. is also working on it.

How a U.S. soccer strategy came unstuck

By TERRY DODSWORTH IN NEW YORK

MR. GIORGIO CHINAGLIA, former goal-scoring hero and current manager of the legendary New York Cosmos soccer club has just gone through a very trying experience.

Only six months ago, he bought a controlling stake in the team amid high hopes that his local popularity and flair for publicity would breathe new life into the organisation. This week, after a \$1.5m loss he abandoned his effort to turn the Cosmos into an indoor team, cast doubt on its future in the outdoor professional league, and announced a brand new strategy based on a glamorous exhibition matches against big-name foreign teams.

The Cosmos's problems are a striking illustration of the abrupt reversals that can suddenly occur in American sport. Until the end of the 1983 season, everything seemed to be going the Cosmos's way. The club was the play thing of the then embarrassingly wealthy Warner Communications, which seemed overjoyed to fund an expensive galaxy of fading international stars such as Pelé of Brazil or Franz Beckenbauer of West Germany.

Bankrolled to the tune of an estimated \$2m to \$3m a year, the Cosmos team pulled in both the crowds and the victories at the magnificent Meadowland



"To get better TV coverage I bought some English fans"

league for several years in succession.

Warner's aim was to create instant success with its all-star team, building up profits rapidly, and thereby generating the funds for further investments. In 1983 this approach suddenly went wildly wrong when Warner plunged overnight into acute financial difficulties because of losses by Atari, its electronics games division at that time.

If the Cosmos team had, with a tremendous fund of good will, a Welsh-born player, who found his way to the Cosmos via Swansea and Leeds

was still draining out cash, and Warner was only too happy to sell a 60 per cent stake to Mr. Chinaglia as it started to rebuild its battered balance sheet. "We were disappointed that we were never able to build a broader supporter-base in New York," a Warner executive confessed at the time. "We always had to rely too heavily on ethnic supporters who were more interested in overseas stars than American players."

Mr. Chinaglia started out with a tremendous fund of good will. A Welsh-born player, who found his way to the Cosmos via Swansea and Leeds

his assertiveness goes down well in a city where modesty never wins any prizes. He also arrived just after a tremendously successful year managing Lazio (where he is still in charge), and even more importantly, he had an idea he decided to take the team into the indoor league.

Indoor soccer, American-style, is a unique side-sides game, born out of American commercial cunning and an eye for the television dollar. The idea was to create a sport, like basketball or ice hockey, that is played in an ice hockey stadium, without the ice, with non-stop action and a great amount of scoring—an average of 10 goals a game. Spectators watch in comfort during the winter months, and are much closer to the game than in traditional outdoor soccer.

Indoor soccer is also broken up into four periods a game, partly because it is so physically demanding, but partly because that is what television wants. Indeed, in order to provide even more natural breaks for TV advertising, a system of line-outs—occasions when a team can stop the clock—discuss tactics—was borrowed from American football. Conventional football has always suffered in the U.S. because advertisements clash with the flow of the game.

larity and popularity means television ratings. Cosmos has failed abysmally on all counts. In 33 games, it won 11 and lost 22, while its average indoor crowd was only 4,100. In desperation, Mr. Chinaglia put on his football togs again a few weeks ago and knocked in a few goals. But the effort proved futile and in the end he was forced to concede defeat.

His alternative strategy, he says, is to cater to the one area where soccer in New York has been an unquestioned success—the international exhibition match. During this summer, Cosmos is aiming to slot in around 15 games with teams such as Manchester United (already tentatively signed), Barcelona, Sao Paulo and Hamburg. The club is also aiming to hire overseas stars of its own to play in these glamorous events.

Meanwhile, Cosmos is uncertain whether it will stay in the North American Soccer League, the governing body for the U.S. game. It has not paid its \$150,000 fee to the league for the summer season, and is openly suggesting that it may drop out altogether.

THE CRAFT/ART OF THE ISLAMIC KNOT

is a respectful, as well as true and pure, description of the dedicated alchemy of the hands that conceive and the hands that create this noble craft/art form.

SUNDAY 3rd. MARCH
THREE MAJOR AUCTIONS

The Consultancy
A limited liability company incorporated in Switzerland and USA
specialised in preservation of international wealth forms
London office 144-146 New Bond Street, London W1

IMPORTANT AUCTION
HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Unique rare and superb carpets and rugs masterworks
in wool and silk of the following periods:
Qajar, Early Pahlavi, Tzarist Russia, Ottoman etc.,
and the following origins: Persia, Asia Minor, Central Asia, India
(Levels 5 & 6 of the craft/art of the Islamic knot collection value £700,000)
Portman Hotel, Portman Square. Auction 7.30 View 6.30

Custodian Superintendence & Trustee Company Limited SA
A limited liability company organised in Luxembourg specialised in acquisition,
mergers, financing special situations,
London office 144-146 New Bond Street, London W1

**A SPECIAL SITUATION TEMPORARILY EXISTS WITH THE PARALLEL
(BLACK MARKET) RATE OF THE IRANIAN RIAL TO THE US \$**

PUBLIC AUCTION
(Level 4 of the craft/art of the Islamic knot)

FINELY KNOTTED, EXCEPTIONAL, RARE AND EXEMPLARY
Carpets and rugs—origin, Iran, Asia Minor, Caucasus,
Central Asia, Afghanistan—Inventory value \$400,000

Portman Hotel, Portman Square.
Auction 3.00pm View 2.00pm

A WELLESLEY BRISCOE & PARTNERS
67-68 New Bond Street W1
A United Kingdom Company specialised in quantity disposals and furthering of
information at the craft level 2 & 3 of craft/art of the Islamic knot

A MAJOR DISPOSAL AUCTION
of levels 2 & 3 of the craft/art of the Islamic knot

HAND KNOTTED CARPETS AND RUGS AND RUNNERS,
of the following traditional knotting areas creating technical perfection
PUNJAB, SIND, INDIA, CENTRAL ASIA, ROMANIA, BULGARIA
Sizes from 3x2 to 20 x 12

By order of principal direct importers, all carpets and rugs having
been cleared from HM Customs and Excise Bond to be disposed
of at nominal or no-reserve for immediate cash realisation.

At Portman Hotel, Portman Square, Sunday 3 March 10.30am
View 9.30

Payments cash, certified cheques, major credit cards,
or previous arrangements with financial controller.

مكازم الأصيل

Jaguar chairman leaves after eight months

BY KENNETH GOODING, MOTOR INDUSTRY CORRESPONDENT

MR HAMISH ORR-EWING has stepped down after only eight months as chairman of the Jaguar car company.

He is to be replaced by Mr John Egan, chief executive and the man given much of the credit for the revival of Jaguar in recent years.

Mr Kenneth Edwards, director personnel, and Mr Michael Beasley, director of manufacturing, have been appointed to the Jaguar board, and as a result the balance of power has swung in favour of the executive directors, who now outnumber the non-executives.

After the news last night, the Jaguar share price rose by 6p to 325p. When the company was sold back to the private sector in August the price was 165p.

Mr Orr-Ewing, 59, who is also non-executive chairman of Rank Xerox, was named chairman-designate of Jaguar last May at the time the company was being taken over for disposal by BL. He took over the position which brought him an annual salary of £25,000, plus £10,000 director's fee, on July 26.

His job was to provide the contacts with City and financial institutions which the executive director of Jaguar lacked.

The company attempted yesterday to play down the problems which have obviously arisen between Mr Orr-Ewing and Mr Egan by issuing a statement quoting Mr Orr-Ewing as saying: "I am now confident Jaguar has settled down well as a public company that its executive management is fully capable of controlling its destiny."

Mr Orr-Ewing will remain a non-executive director of the company.

The Jaguar statement, to which the company refused to all, quoted Mr Egan as stating: "Hamish has guided Jaguar through the difficult period immediately following our privatisation. We are all extremely grateful for his contribution."

Alliance sets out its strategy for Budget

BY MARGARET VAN HATTEM, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A 54th public spending programme aimed at cutting unemployment to 2.7m by the end of this year while holding inflation to 6.9 per cent is the main feature of the Budget strategy published yesterday by the Liberal/SDP Alliance.

The package includes a £1bn boost for public sector capital spending (£800m on housing, £200m on roads); a 1 per cent cut in employers' National Insurance contributions, costing £745m; additional payments for low income families; and the long-term unemployed; and an expansion of community jobs programmes and youth training programmes.

These would add an estimated £1.1bn to the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement as well as using up the £1.5bn which the Government had hoped to set aside for tax cuts.

The inflationary effects would be curbed by a "steady monetary policy" (with the possibility of raising interest rates to support the sterling exchange rate within the European Monetary System), and a tight rein on wage increases in the private and public sectors, with a 12 month pay freeze if necessary. Inflation would, however, remain slightly higher than projected levels.

Introducing the package yesterday, Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, emphasised the capital spending element which he presented as a "superior brand of the 'household economics' advocated by the Prime Minister."

"Most people in their own households recognise that they must invest in maintenance," he said. "This government has not invested in the maintenance of Britain — they have been bad householders."

Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democrats, said the package showed that the Alliance had the will to reduce unemployment in a credible way without triggering high inflation. It would bring unemployment 500,000 below projected levels by the end of this year.

The Alliance Budget paper says the Government's budgetary and monetary policies have been "unnecessarily restrictive."

LABOUR HAS established a two point lead over the Tories, benefiting from a slide in support for the SDP/Liberal Alliance, according to a Mori opinion poll published last night.

The poll, conducted between February 16 and 18, puts Labour in the lead for the first time since last August, and shows the party at 40 per cent, with 35 per cent for the Tories and 19 per cent for the Alliance.

It continues the trend shown in recent Mori polls, which had the two main parties converging on 37 per cent at the beginning of February with the Alliance at 24 per cent. In the first week of January the position was Tories at 42 per cent, Labour at 34 per cent and the Alliance at 24 per cent.

It points out that over the past five years, the PSBR has fallen in real terms from £15bn to £6bn (1982 prices) while unemployment has more than doubled.

Other job-creating measures should include:

- An increase in the community programme for the long term unemployed from 130,000 to 250,000 in the current year, and a new programme for the long-term unemployed who are under 25, providing 75,000 places this year and 150,000 places within two years. These would cost an estimated £635m.
- An extension of the youth training scheme to cover all 16 and 17-year-olds who wish to take part, providing an estimated extra 250,000 places at a cost of £600m.
- On benefits, the Alliance proposes:
 - Extending the long-term rates of supplementary benefit to cover the long-term unemployed under 60, providing an extra weekly £3.65 for single people and £11.55 for married couples at a cost of £485m.
 - Restructuring the family income supplement scheme, raising thresholds to increase the number of recipients from 200,000 to 1.25m, with higher payments for most of those eligible. This would cost £475m.

Brendan Keenan on the Newry terrorists who struck out with a pipe stuck in a concrete block

Desperate for arms, the IRA resorts to backyard weaponry



A crude mortar shell reduced Newry Police Station to a pile of rubble, killing nine people.

IT IS hard to imagine anything cruder than the IRA mortar shells which killed nine RUC officers in Newry police station on Thursday evening.

These home-made devices are put together in backyard garages and machine shops and fired from pieces of piping embedded in concrete on the backs of lorries.

As Thursday proved, it is also difficult to imagine a terrorist weapon more dangerous and more frightening. They have been used sporadically since the early 1970s but never before with such devastating results.

With hindsight, it can be said that the security forces and civilian population have been lucky over the years. The mortars are wildly inaccurate and most previous attacks have missed their targets.

This makes them particularly dangerous to civilians near security installations. On one notorious occasion a mortar landed in a school playground but failed to explode.

The Newry attack was similarly wild. Some of the shells—at least six were fired—ended up outside the walls of the fortified station; others failed to explode and were dealt with yesterday by army experts.

But at least one struck a Portakabin used as the station canteen and it was there that the casualties—the worst the RUC has suffered in a single incident—took place.

The attack was a replica of many others, apart from the

scale of the carnage. A lorry hijacked in South Armagh, a few miles from Newry, was fitted with the tubes and mortars.

It was parked less than 200 yards behind the station and explosive charges in the base of the mortars were detonated electrically.

Security experts say the devastation was due to luck, rather than any new technique, and this stroke of luck could not have come at a better time from the IRA's point of view.

They are under considerable pressure and are known to be short of weapons and materials. The security forces have scored a number of intelligence coups recently and, although there is still argument about it, the

Dublin Government believes the 161.75m (£1.5m) seized recently was IRA funds.

The capture of seven tonnes of arms from a trailer off the Irish coast last year was an even more bitter blow. It meant the loss of months, if not years, of planning and £2m to £5m in funds.

The weapons, especially the heavy machine guns, were badly needed to pursue the IRA's present strategy.

That strategy is to avoid civilian casualties where possible in favour of attacks on security forces or political targets. These should preferably be what is known in Ulster's hard-bitten jargon as "spectaculars," involving multiple deaths or some other feature to grab

newspaper headlines.

The bombing of the British Cabinet at the Grand Hotel in Brighton was the ultimate "spectacular" from the IRA's point of view.

Newry now joins the list and, ironically, just three miles away from the bombed police station is the spot where 18 paratroopers died in 1981 in the Army's worst single incident in Northern Ireland.

The new IRA tactics are meant to maximise electoral support for their political movement, Sinn Féin, but they have led to some odd ironies.

Northern Ireland life is more normal than at any time since the troubles began, with Belfast's city centre enjoying a minor property boom. But

MR DOUGLAS HURD, the Northern Ireland Secretary, yesterday visited the Newry police station where nine officers died in an IRA mortar attack on Thursday night.

Several men, arrested in raids in the Newry and South Armagh area during the day, were being questioned about serious terrorist crimes, the RUC said.

Mr Hurd said security chiefs had told him there was no new expertise used in the IRA attack. It was a stroke of good fortune for the terrorists that one mortar bomb had fallen on a Portakabin used as a police canteen.

He added: "The terrorists are wrong to think that such attacks weaken the Government's determination to pursue a robust security policy. They only strengthen that determination."

Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of the RUC, has set short a lecture tour of the U.S. to return to the province. He is expected to meet Mr Hurd over the weekend.

Mr Alan Wright, chairman of the Northern Ireland Police Federation, who lost a niece in the attack, said the deaths hurt every member of the force and was bound to lower morale.

statistics collated by the London-based Irish Information Partnership show that, while the number of incidents have fallen, the number of deaths in each incident has increased.

In other words, the terrorists are becoming more "efficient" and the victims are usually members of the security forces, often local part-timers.

The RUC, as its deputy chief constable asserted, will not be deflected from its present role as the main security agent in the province, but the price is high.

A recent survey of more than 30 police forces around the world showed that RUC members run the highest risk of being killed on duty—50 per

cent higher than in El Salvador and four times higher than in U.S. cities like New York.

The number of deaths in the Newry attacks means that many members of the 10,000-strong force will have known one or more of the victims.

But the force has learned to cope, although the strain shows in higher-than-average incidences of drinking problems, marital difficulties and even—according to some statistics—of suicides among members and their relatives.

The political atmosphere will be poisoned even further. The years of killing have opened a gulf of misunderstanding between the communities which may be impossible to bridge.

12.75%

On 13th March, the interest rate on National Savings Deposit Bonds jumps to 12.75% p.a., credited in full.

These bonds are designed specifically for investors wanting to build up capital.

New minimum.

The minimum you can buy is going down to £100 with effect from 13th March. Until then the minimum is £250. You buy in multiples of £50 and there is no change in the maximum holding of £50,000.

Give us three months' notice and all or part of your bond can be repaid. Hold on to your bond for just one year and it earns the full rate of interest.

Even if you need to withdraw your money within the first year, you'll still earn interest at half the published rate.

It's spring time for Deposit Bond investors.

12%

Competitive interest.

Interest is calculated on a daily basis, and is credited in full on the anniversary of your deposit. It is subject to tax if you are a taxpayer. From time to time the interest may vary, so the rate can be kept competitive. We give six weeks' notice of any change.

How to buy

Almost anyone can invest in Deposit Bonds—personal investors, including children and two or more people jointly, and trustees, companies, clubs, voluntary bodies, etc.

As a personal investor, you can buy in two ways. You can send the application form below direct to the Deposit Bond Office—make out your cheque (not cash) to "National Savings".

Or you can ask for a combined prospectus/application form at a post office and make your deposit there. If you pay by cheque, make it out to "The Post Office".

Trustees, companies, voluntary bodies, etc. should use the application form below.

Interest will be earned from the day you buy your bond at the Post Office or, if you use the application form below, the day your deposit is received at the Deposit Bond Office.

DEPOSIT BOND

Business Expansion Scheme

SMITHFIELD DEVELOPMENTS PLC

Formed to refurbish and build office and light industrial accommodation for 'owner occupation' by small businesses in and near the City of London.

Particular emphasis on Smithfield where management has recent development experience.

Offer for Subscription

of up to 2,000,000 ordinary shares at £1 per share, payable in full on application, on or before Friday 15th March 1985.*

Sponsored by
NOBLE GROSSART LIMITED

For copies of the offer for subscription, on the basis of which alone application can be made, please contact Noble Grossart Limited, 17 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3ED or telephone 01-242 1414.

*except as stated in the Offer for Subscription.

PROSPECTUS

DESCRIPTION

1. National Savings Deposit Bonds ("bonds") are Government securities issued by the Treasury under the National Loans Act 1968. They are registered on the National Savings Stock Register and are subject to the Securities Regulations relating to the National Savings Stock Register for the time being in force, so far as these are applicable. The principal of, and interest on, bonds are a charge on the National Loans Fund.

PURCHASE

2.1 Subject to a minimum purchase of £250 (see paragraph 3) a purchase may be made in multiples of £50. The date of purchase will for all purposes be the date payment is received, with a completed application form, at the National Savings Deposit Bond Office, a Post Office Savings Office, a National Savings Bank branch or such other place as the Director of Savings may specify.

2.2 A certificate will be issued in respect of each purchase. This certificate will show the value of the bond and the date of purchase. This certificate will be replaced on each anniversary of the date of purchase, and on part repayment in accordance with paragraph 5.2, by a new certificate showing the updated value of the bond, including capitalised interest.

MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM HOLDING LIMITS

3.1 No person may hold, either solely or jointly with any other person, less than £250 in any one bond or more than £50,000 in one or more bonds. The maximum holding limit will not prevent the capitalisation of interest under paragraph 4.3 but capitalised interest will count towards this limit if the holder wishes to purchase another bond. Bonds inherited from a deceased holder and interest on such bonds will not count towards the maximum limit. Bonds held by a person as trustee will not count towards the maximum which he may hold as trustee of a separate fund or which he or the beneficiary may hold in a personal capacity.

3.2 The Treasury may vary the maximum and minimum holding limits and the minimum initial purchase from time to time, upon giving notice, but such a variation will not prejudice any right enjoyed by a bond holder immediately before the variation in respect of a bond then held by him.

INTEREST

4.1 Interest will be calculated on a day to day basis from the date of purchase up to the date of repayment. Subject to paragraph 4.2 interest on a bond will be payable at a rate determined by the Treasury which may be varied upon giving six weeks' notice.

4.2 The rate of interest on a bond or part of a bond repaid before the first anniversary of the date of purchase will be half the rate determined by the Treasury in accordance with paragraph 4.1, unless repayment is made on the death of the sole bond holder.

4.3 Interest on a bond will be capitalised on each anniversary of the date of purchase without deduction of income tax, but interest is subject to income tax and must be included in any return of income made to the Inland Revenue in respect of the year in which it is capitalised.

REPAYMENT

5.1 A holder must give three calendar months' notice of any application for repayment before redemption but no prior notice is required if application is made on the death of the sole bond holder. Any application for repayment of a bond must be made in writing to the National Savings Deposit Bond Office and be accompanied by the current investment certificate. The period of notice will be calculated from the date on which the application is received in the National Savings Deposit Bond Office.

5.2 Application may be made in accordance with paragraph 5.1 for repayment of part of a bond, including capitalised interest, but the amount to be repaid must not be less than £50, or such other figure as the Treasury may determine from time to time upon giving notice. The balance of the bond remaining after repayment, excluding interest which has not been capitalised, must be not less than the minimum holding limit which was in force at the date of application. Where part of a bond has been repaid a new certificate will be issued and the remaining balance will be treated as having the same date of purchase as the original bond.

5.3 Payments will be made by crossed warrant sent by post. For the purpose of determining the amount payable in respect of a bond the date of repayment will be treated as the date on the warrant.

5.4 No payment will be made in respect of a bond held by a minor under the age of seven years, either solely or jointly with any other person, except with the consent of the Director of Savings.

TRANSFERS

6. Bonds will not be transferable except with the consent of the Director of Savings. The Director of Savings will, for example, normally give consent in the case of devolution of bonds on the death of a holder but not to any proposed transfer which is by way of sale or for any consideration.

NOTICE

7. The Treasury will give any notice required under paragraph 3.2, 4.1, 4.2 and 8 in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes or in any manner which they think fit. If notice is given otherwise than in the Gazettes, it will as soon as reasonably possible thereafter be recorded in them.

GUARANTEED LIFE OF BONDS

8. Each bond may be held for a guaranteed initial period of 10 years from the purchase date. Thereafter interest will continue to be payable in accordance with paragraphs 4.1 and 4.3 until the redemption of the bond. The bond may be redeemed either at the end of the guaranteed initial period or on any date thereafter, in either case upon the giving of six months' notice by the Treasury. The Director of Savings will write to the holder before redemption, at his last recorded address, informing him of this date of redemption.

NATIONAL SAVINGS DEPOSIT BOND—Application to purchase

To the Deposit Bond Office, Dept. FT11, National Savings, Glasgow G5 1SR.

I/We accept the terms of the Prospectus and apply for a bond to the value of £

Please use CAPITAL letters

Surname(s) First name(s) Middle name(s)

Address

Postcode

Date of Birth Day Month Year

Notes: If the bond is to be held jointly the names and addresses of all holders should be entered. The investment certificate and all correspondence will normally be sent to the first named holder, unless you state otherwise.

NAME AND ADDRESS TO WHICH DEPOSIT BOND SHOULD BE SENT (Complete only if different from first address above)

Name

Address

Postcode

Do you already have a National Savings Deposit Bond? YES NO (Please tick as appropriate)

If YES please enter the Deposit Bond number shown on any of your investment certificates.

Signature(s) Date

Note: If the bond is to be held jointly all the parties must sign above. Persons signing for children under 7 should also state relationship here.

BBC advised to combine its sales ventures

BY RAYMOND SNODDY

THE BBC should bring all its commercial operations under a single organisation and management structure, an independent study argues.

Marketing Improvements, the largest independent marketing consultants in the UK, was asked by the BBC to look at its commercial operations to see whether they could be more efficient and profitable.

The report delivered to the BBC two weeks ago recommends radical changes.

The Corporation's commercial activities come under the responsibility of different BBC directorships. Together, it is believed their annual turnover exceeds £100m a year.

The largest in terms of turnover is BBC Publications, publisher of the Radio Times and the Listener, with a £33m turnover in the last financial year. Next is BBC Enterprises with a turnover of £31.4m last year, responsible for programme sales, records, videos and the BBC microcomputer.

There is also the Hulton Picture Library, English by Radio and Television on the External Services, BBC Data, which is involved in information data banks, a microfilm operation and radio transcription service, which sells discs of radio programmes to foreign broadcasters.

Marketing Improvements suggests that although activities are run by skilled teams they need a more co-ordinated market focus.

The implication of the main recommendation is that a unified commercial BBC organisation would be run by someone with extensive commercial experience, probably from outside the BBC.

Hooligans give the footballers a pounding

By Kevin Brown

THE £1 coin — heavily criticised since its introduction last year — has become a favourite weapon for football hooligans, who find its weight and size make it an ideal missile.

Up to £30 in pound coins has been found in the goalmouths at some major football league matches, say MPs who have heard reports from leading clubs.

The problem marks a new phase in football violence, which is beginning to worry MPs, and has led to suggestions from some football officials that high perspex barriers may have to be placed around pitches at some grounds to prevent players being injured.

This suggestion is likely to be included in an Environment Department report due later this month which will explore crowd security at football matches. It follows an initiative launched by the department last year, when many people involved with the game were invited to give evidence.

One suggestion made by the department, a league table of clubs with hooligan problems, has been quietly dropped after critics said it would encourage hooligans to try to outdo their rivals.

Submissions to the department have revealed increasing concern over attacks on players, underlined by several incidents in which fans attacked teams leaving the pitch.

Apart from the use of £1 coins, there has been an increase in the number of sharpened 10p pieces and darts — for long the hooligans' favourite weapons — thrown onto pitches.

Raymond Snoddy on a TV channel broadcast by satellite from small London studios Europe switches on to the Music Box pop show

MUSIC BOX may not yet be a name on everyone's lips but in Eindhoven, 50 per cent of 11 to 25 year olds watch it at least once a week. In Burnley and Pontypool it is more popular than BBC's Top of the Pops among cable television subscribers, according to independent research.

Music Box is the first pop music channel for Europe. It goes out 18 hours a day — six hours of new programmes



broadcast three times — on the European Communications Satellite.

Although only launched in July the channel is already available to 1m homes. Between now and April that will grow to more than 1.5m as Helsinki and Switzerland get the benefit of pop through every waking hour. The target is 4m homes by the end of the year.

Interviews with musicians, presentation and links between programmes go out live from

two studios little bigger than living rooms just off London's Tottenham Court Road. But the heart of the channel is the apparently limitless supply of sophisticated promotion video tapes made by pop groups and record companies.

"Our production values are actually many times greater than traditional broadcast television," claims Mr Charles Levison, chief executive of Music Box, who was once the Beatles' lawyer.

His belief video promos cost an average of £15,000 for a three minute slot — which means that as much as £300,000 an hour may be spent on much of the material of Music Box shows.

The channel pays royalties for using the music but total running costs still average only £1,000 an hour.

But Thorn EMI, which owns 50 per cent of Music Box, Virgin (45 per cent) and Yorkshire Television (5 per cent) have paid high investment costs. The channel is spending at the rate of £7m to £8m a year including satellite communication charges of £3m a year.

The aim is to fund the channel largely from advertising. But apart from an initial burst of



Mr Levison: reaching out for £2m revenue.

soft drinks advertisements for the European launch in July, Music Box earned no revenue for four months until a few pre-Christmas record advertisements.

That seems about to change. In January, Mars, the American food group, launched a 12-month campaign on Music Box for a substantial sum. The channel expects other campaign announcements in the next few weeks.

Music Box also has high hopes that a multinational will sponsor one of its regular programmes, European Tour Guide, which gives information and videos on concert tours by leading artists.

"We expect revenue from April 1985-86 to be at least £2m," says Mr Levison.

There is a great contrast between the slow spread of multi-channel cable television in the UK and the speed with which British programme providers such as Music Box are peopling the European cable market.

"By April, only 4 per cent of our business will be in the UK," Mr Levison points out.

He hopes Music Box will match and even exceed the speed at which MTV, the pop cable channel in the U.S. moved into profit.

MTV, launched in 1981 on a diet of hard rock and top-40 music videos 24 hours a day, became profitable in the first quarter of 1984. Stock brokers Salomon Brothers said recently that MTV's earnings per share were expected to grow by 87 per cent this year.

Mr Levison hopes Music Box will break even during its second year. This largely

depends how quickly Music Box is accepted in the rest of Europe.

It is already available on cable networks in the UK, West Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and Finland. The channel believes it has agreement in principle for a number of French cities but there are still obstacles over Norway, Denmark, Belgium and Ireland. Yugoslav and Hungarian television, however, have both

written to ask if they can make use of Music Box material in their schedules.

The channel believes it is already providing a pan-European forum for continental performers such as Herman Brood of Holland, Secret Service of Finland and Axel Bauer of France.

Mr Marcus Bicknell, head of marketing, believes Music Box's appearances stimulated the release of Axel Bauer's records outside France.

Aveling Barford in £60m China dump truck deal

BY IAN RODGER

AVELING BARFORD, the Grantham construction equipment group, expects to sign a seven-year £60m agreement on Monday to build dump trucks in China.

The contract confirms the recovery of Aveling, a former BL subsidiary, which seemed on the verge of extinction after heavy losses in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

The agreement provides for the company, sold in December 1983 to a private U.S. investor, to transfer technology for making large dump trucks at a plant in Peking. Initially, the entire kit of components will be supplied from the Grantham plant, but the company plans no increase in its 1,100 workforce.

Mr Chris Baoham sales and marketing director of Aveling, said: "We are obviously delighted. We already export to over 100 countries, but China is a very important addition."

He said the contract was won

against mainly European competition. The leading U.S. and Japanese producers were less willing to transfer technology.

"The Chinese want a modern truck that they can build for the next 20 years."

The first vehicles would be assembled in the second half of this year. The plan was to produce at a rate of 100 trucks a year.

They would be 30-tonne models, but 40 and 50-tonners might be added "in due course."

Since the takeover by Mr Adrian Eschallier, a Philadelphia attorney, consultant, in 1983 Aveling's sales have grown substantially, and the workforce has been kept intact.

The company makes rollers, wheeled loaders and graders as well as dump trucks, and produces about 750 vehicles a year, compared with about 450 in 1982. More than 70 per cent of its products are exported.

GLC fails to see documents on rates policy

ATTEMPTS by the Greater London Council and the Inner London Education Authority to prise ministerial rates policy documents out of the Environment Department were dismissed as "a fishing expedition" by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The two authorities had argued they needed the documents if there was to be a fair trial of their claims, due in the High Court on Monday, for quashing rate limits imposed on them by Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary.

In applications for judicial review of Mr Jenkin's decisions, they will assert that he acted irrationally and unreasonably.

Merseyside agency keeps control of festival site

BY IAN HAMILTON FAZEY

THE DISPUTED future of Liverpool's International Carden Festival site was settled yesterday with the announcement that most of it will remain in the public domain.

May 23 until the end of the school summer holidays on September 8.

After eight months of sometimes bitter wrangling, Liverpool City Council has agreed to leave control of the site with its initial developer, the Merseyside Development Corporation, an agency of the Department of the Environment.

The city was supposed to take over the site on January 1 but has not budgeted to do so.

The development corporation will retain control of the 125 acres of reclaimed dockland and rubbish tips until 1988. It hopes by then to have found a private sector developer to turn it into a permanent commercial leisure

complex of theme park and exhibition centre.

The now-shelved agreement between the corporation and the city will then be re-examined.

The Corporation is being given no extra money to develop the Festival Gardens, as the site will be known. Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, has already refused funds for Liverpool City Council to do this. The council is heading for another confrontation with Mr Jenkin over budget cuts.

The Corporation will find the money, the amount of which has no three announced, by deferring development of redundant dockland near the new Mersey freeport. However, there was little prospect of bringing this land into use for several years.

The Festival Gardens will be smaller than last year's International Garden Festival,

Thames TV finance head quits

BY RAYMOND SNODDY

MR IAN SCOTT, director of finance at Thames Television, has left the company. Staff at Thames were told this week that Mr Scott offered his resignation and had left.

Thames refused to say yesterday why Mr Scott, who had been director of finance at the largest ITV station for the past

Further issue of index-linked gilts

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday sought to revive its debt funding programme by announcing the issue of a further £200m worth of existing index-linked gilts which will be offered for sale on Monday.

The two stocks on offer are £150m of 2½ per cent index-linked Treasury 2009 and £150m of 2½ per cent Treasury 2016.

'Increase in cowboy builders'

By John Gray, Construction Correspondent

BUILDING employers' fears about the spread of "cowboy" builders have been confirmed by a survey of advertisements in newspapers throughout the country.

Almost 75 per cent of 700 advertisers offering building services in local newspapers were not registered for value added tax, the survey, conducted in collaboration with Customs and Excise, found.

The findings have been sent to Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, following his request at a meeting with Building Employers' Confederation representatives last October for further information on the black economy in the building industry.

The BEC has been urging for some time tougher government action to curb the VAT-evading builders who, the BEC estimates, account for £2bn of the £5bn in the private housing improvement market. Their activities involve the loss to the government of at least £800m in taxes, says the BEC.

Spain may be moving back into favour with Britons after the major holiday companies cut prices to overcome a 30 per cent fall in bookings.

Thomson Holidays, Britain's biggest tour company, said it had sold almost 10,000 extra holidays since it reduced prices three days ago by as much as £144.

Bid to wind up warranty company

THE TRADE and Industry Secretary has presented a petition for the compulsory winding up of Bloomsbury, a Manchester-based company, offering extended warranty insurance for domestic appliances, Bloomside, not an authorised insurance company, has issued an estimated 55,000 warranties.

The Official Receiver has been appointed provisional liquidator pending the High Court hearing of the petition on April 22.

Another 350 Plessey jobs go

ANOTHER 350 jobs — a quarter of the remaining workforce — are to go at Plessey Telecommunications headquarters plant in Edgely Lane, Liverpool.

It is part of the company's

reduction of the Liverpool labour force after switching manufacture to the high technology System Telephone exchanges, and the phasing out of payphone and test set production.

ECONOMIC DIARY

TOMORROW: National Union Mineworkers' special delegate conference in London. Baroness Young, Minister of State, Foreign Office, begins three day visit to Caracas.

MONDAY: UK official reserves (February). Credit business (January). Retail sales (January). Capital issues and redemptions during February. House of Commons debates Government expenditure plans for 1985-86. Mr David Lange, New Zealand Prime Minister, meets Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Mr Ian MacGregor, National Coal Board chairman, to speak at Coal Industry Society lunch. Mr Paul Channon, Minister for Trade, accompanied by four UK businessmen, begins visit to Spain to assess the potential for increased British exports.

TUESDAY: National Union of Teachers to begin the second three-day selective strike over pay, disrupting 265 schools (in 27 local authorities). House of Commons completes remaining stages of Companies Consolidation (Consequential Provisions) Bill. House of Lords debates stability of currency.

WEDNESDAY: Housing starts and completions (January). House renovations (fourth quarter). Advance energy statistics (January). House of Commons Select Committee on Energy hears evidence on Government's oil price policy from Mr Ajie Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State, Department of Energy.

THURSDAY: UK balance of payments (fourth quarter). Unemployment and unfilled vacancies (February). EEC environment ministers meet. Brussels. Sizewell nuclear power station inquiry expected to end. Insurance ombudsman's annual report.

FRIDAY: Building Societies' Association meets. Scottish Labour Party annual conference. Perth. Welsh Liberal Assembly, Swansea. Car and commercial vehicle production (January final).

Important news for Midland Savers



From 6th April 1985, banks will be required by law to pay interest on your savings net of tax. This means that we will account to the Inland Revenue for the basic rate of tax payable on your savings interest, just as the building societies do.

Certain customers, notably limited companies, clubs, societies, churches, charities, overseas residents and anyone with accounts held at our branches in the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, may continue to receive interest gross after this date.

Midland Bank gives notice that as from 4th March 1985, the rates of interest on its savings accounts will be as shown below. As you can see Midland continues to offer a wide range of savings accounts at very competitive rates.

Details of the new scheme are being sent direct to our savings customers but if you have any queries about payment of interest your local Midland branch will happily sort them out for you.

Gross Interest p.a.	Midland Savings Account	Net Interest p.a.	Gross equivalent to a basic rate tax payer p.a.
13.38%	High Interest Cheque Account	10.00%	14.29%
13.38%	Monthly Income Account	10.00%	14.29%
11.04%	Saver Plus £100 and over	8.25%	11.79%
11.71%	£250 and over	8.75%	12.50%
12.37%	£500 and over	9.25%	13.21%
13.04%	£1,000 and over	9.75%	13.93%
10.37%	Deposit Account	7.75%	11.07%
13.04%	Griffin Savers	9.75%	13.93%

Midland The Listening Bank
Midland Bank plc

The last and the first word on Tax

Tax Planning Review 1984/85
Will prove invaluable in assessing and identifying methods by which you may be able to reduce your tax liability in the current year and benefit substantially from planning ahead in future years.

Commentary on the Budget 1985
Will be published immediately after the Budget and will summarise all relevant matters announced by the Chancellor and comment on the implications of any new measures introduced.

Stoy Hayward is a leading firm of Accountants, Business Advisers and Management Consultants, advising clients on all aspects of personal and corporate tax planning, both in the UK and internationally.

We believe that our tax expertise and the constructive advice we provide have contributed significantly to the success of our clients. Client relationships are personal, not institutional, and services are designed to meet each client's individual requirements.

As part of our client service we produce an annual Tax Planning Review and a Commentary on the Budget. Copies of these booklets may be obtained free of charge on completing and returning the coupon.

Please complete and return to: **JEN CLOMEL, Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA.**

Please send me a copy of The Last Word and The First Word on Tax.

NAME _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

Stoy Hayward 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA. Telephone 01-486 5888
A member of Horwath & Horwath International

Bank of Scotland
BANK OF SCOTLAND Account Details
Account No 00428407

Balance	125.84
Today's items	75.43
Fund transfers pending	65.00
Keycard withdr pending	30.00
Interest accrued	1.12
Charges accrued	0.50
Overdraft limit	200.00
Cash available from Keycard	70.00

Key 0 Account Index 1 Statement
2 Today's Items 3 Funds

UP-TO DATE INFORMATION.

Bank of Scotland
Make Bill Payments
Mandate No 104
Reference 432281730247

Account to be debited on 04th February 1985
Amount £174.26
Bill paid by 06th February 1985
No changes after 30th January 1985

Key 1 To confirm this payment
2 To change this payment
3 To cancel this payment

PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Bank of Scotland
BANK OF SCOTLAND Inter-account transfers
Details

From Current Account No 00428407
Grant J A Pers Acc
Home Banking Centre

To Investment Account No 02037184
Grant J A
Home Banking Centre

Amount £100.00

Key 1 To send 2 Not to send
3 Change Accounts 4 Change Amount 5 Change both

INTER-ACCOUNT TRANSFERS.

Bank of Scotland
Standing Order Mandates Held

To	Next Date	Until	Amount
Upland Electricity Monthly	30Jan85	30Nov85	32.40
British Gas Monthly	06Feb85	06Sep85	31.15
Midshires Council Monthly	01Feb85	01Mar85	57.81
General Life Ass Monthly	31Jan85	N.A.	22.45
United Auto Ins Quarterly	15Mar85	15Jun85	26.95

Key 1 More Mandates
2 Finish

STANDING ORDER DETAILS.

Bank of Scotland
Statement
A/C No 00428407

Date	Details	Amount	Balance
11Jan85	398410	45.00	226.97
11Jan85	P B Oil	8.75	235.72
12Jan85	398412	27.42	208.30
13Jan85	Keycard 90375603	100.00	108.30
14Jan85	Bank Giro Credit	47.52	155.82
14Jan85	398413	29.98	125.84

Key 1 Earlier Items
2 Finish

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

Bank of Scotland
BANK OF SCOTLAND Cash Management
148 High St Southampton
ACCOUNT: 00101407 CURRENCY: STD

Ledger position on first line
Debitments expiring and clearing position on second line

Date	Debit	Credit	Balance
14Jan1985	1,456	504	1,733
15Jan1985	389	750	2,094
16Jan1985	0	1,048	1,117
17Jan1985	0	2,884	2,094
17Jan1985	0	327	2,094

Key 1 Finish

CASH MANAGEMENT FOR BUSINESSES.

New from Bank of Scotland. Home Banking throughout the UK.



Bank of Scotland is pleased to announce the latest in a long line of "firsts".

As the first bank in the UK to launch comprehensive home banking nationally, we have turned science fiction into fact. Now you can manage your money from the comfort of your own armchair.

It's banking at your fingertips.

With Bank of Scotland's Home Banking service, direct access to your accounts is—literally—at your fingertips.

No more queues, no more delays, no more confusion. You can move your money around, check any aspect of your accounts and pay your bills SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, ALMOST ROUND THE CLOCK.

You can operate a Current Account, a Budget Account, a Money Market Cheque Account or obtain up to the minute details of your personal loans.

In fact, most Bank services can now be carried out in YOUR own good time!

Monitor the ebb and flow of your Current Account.

Whenever you like—even on a Sunday evening—you can check your balance, see what transactions you have pending, any bank charges or interest accrued and details of standing orders. You can order a cheque book and statement, and see how much cash you can obtain at any given moment. And that's just for starters.

Pay bills just by lifting a finger.

Forget about queuing or posting cheques. Now you can pay key bills via Home Banking. Simply tell us how much you want to pay—and when—and we'll do the rest.

Move your money where the interest is.

Our Home & Office Banking Investment Account—specially developed for Home Banking—makes this easy.

Whenever you have spare cash in your Current Account, you can transfer it into our new Investment Account simply by entering the details on your screen. Your money will immediately start to earn interest.

When you need to use it, even if only a few days later, you can transfer it back to your Current Account just as easily. In this way you can make your money work for you, and still have it the moment you need it.

The office user can bank on it too.

With this service, Office Banking becomes a reality for many businesses.

They will find the service immensely time-saving and cost effective in keeping track of cashflow and verifying transactions through their bank accounts, as well as earning really useful interest on spare funds.

All these facilities are available now to businesses for payments which can be authorised by a single signature and developments currently in hand will provide for multiple authorisation in the future.

Open up the world of Prestel.*

Bank of Scotland's Home Banking is brought to you through Prestel, the extensive Viewdata system from British Telecom. That means you also have access to thousands of Prestel pages, such as message services including Telex, teleshopping, telebooking, news, weather reports and much more.

A whole new world of communications and information is suddenly there for you to use in your own home.

Simple to use yet completely secure.

Home Banking is so easy to operate a child could do it. However, our security precautions are such that no child (or adult!) can—unless you choose to let them, of course.

On Prestel Financial Services.

To use the system you must first enter your Prestel security codes followed by your Bank of Scotland codes which only you will know. These can be changed by you at anytime.

Discover what Home Banking can mean to you.

This is your opportunity to be one of the first to benefit from the technology of the future. And remember, you can use it anywhere in the UK.

There's a bonus if you decide Home Banking is for you. You can take advantage of our special introductory offer. Initial subscribers will be able to buy—at a very special price—our Prestel adaptor, which links your TV and telephone into the system.

All the details of this offer—and indeed of every aspect of Home Banking from Bank of Scotland—are in our comprehensive information pack.

FREEPOST the coupon and find out how tomorrow's money management can be at your fingertips today!

*Prestel is a registered trade mark of British Telecommunications plc.



Post to: Home Banking Centre, Bank of Scotland, FREEPOST, Edinburgh, EH1 0AA.

I would like to know all about Home Banking from Bank of Scotland. Please send me your information pack.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE



BANK OF SCOTLAND
A FRIEND FOR LIFE

FT 2/3

UK NEWS-LABOUR

Council manual workers likely to accept pay deal

BY DAVID BRINDLE, LABOUR STAFF

ALMOST 900,000 local government manual workers in England and Wales are expected to accept a 10-month pay deal worth £4 a week to all grades. The improved offer was made to union leaders yesterday by council employers facing strikes by teachers and anxious to avert disruption on a second front.

The unions, which had threatened industrial action from next week and had begun to co-ordinate action with teachers, described the offer as respectable and said it would be put to members without any recommendation.

The £4 across-the-board rise would be worth between 4.7 per cent and 5.7 per cent to manual workers, whose basic rates range from £7.00 to £8.25 for a 39-hour week. The rise would be backdated to November 4 and would run to September 1.

The impact of the increase in percentage terms would follow closely last year's award at arbitration to local government white-collar workers, who received from 4.6 per cent to 5.6 per cent for the lower-paid. Leaders of the manual workers had argued for a deal which would benefit the lower-paid and get away from the November settlement date. They said their position at the head of the pay queue meant they were always leapfrogged

by workers striking better deals.

However, the employers until yesterday had refused to move on the settlement date and had offered a £3.70 increase for all grades.

Union negotiators believe that the prospect of teachers and manual workers combining action forced the employers to move. Conservative-controlled shire councils are thought to have feared that further disruption would cause a backlash at local elections in May.

The unions accept, however, that the employers are sympathetic on the problem of low pay among manual workers.

Mr John Edmonds, the unions' chief negotiator, said he was satisfied that the offer met their objectives. The move to a September settlement would be helpful in that the manual workers could come at the end of one pay round, rather than at the start of the next.

He said: "In many ways it is a respectable deal, but it leaves a lot of unfinished business."

Mr Brian Rusbridge, employers' vice secretary of both the manual workers' negotiating committee and the teachers' committee, warned that the teachers could not expect a percentage rise similar to that offered to the manual workers. The teachers have rejected a 4 per cent and arbitration.

Philip Bassett catalogues the rapid crumbling of the miners' strike
A day of reckoning at the pitheads

IN THE END the hard areas cracked. After a year when the miners stood solid, in Yorkshire and particularly in South Wales, this week the trickle of strikers returning to work turned into a flood.

Yesterday's extraordinary figures—1,856 back on a Friday, according to the National Coal Board—simply capped an extraordinary week in which more than 5 per cent of the National Union of Mineworkers' entire membership, as listed by the board, came back to work.

The NCB figures for Friday bring the number of NUM members working to more than 95,000, or about 52 per cent of the total NCB-listed membership of the union of 186,064.

This highest Friday figure for the 12 months of the strike confirmed the trend of the week. In Yorkshire, as many as 1,014 miners went back yesterday—by far the highest Friday figure, and indeed the second-highest daily figure the area has yet seen (the highest

was last Monday, when 1,162 returned).

The Yorkshire area NCB said miners in the area had clearly not even bothered to wait for the outcome of their own area council decision yesterday, or of the union's national delegate conference in London tomorrow.

"They have made up their minds, and are cutting their losses."

Sharston colliery, near Wakefield, registered the biggest single return, with 233 going in for the first time, bringing the total working at the pit to 458, or 46 per cent of its workforce.

At Allerton Bywater, near Castleford, 150 turned up, taking the total to 559—43 per cent. Working miners are now in a majority at Kellingley, Britain's biggest pit; after return yesterday of 64 miners who swelled numbers to 989, or 52 per cent of the workforce.

According to NCB figures—disputed by the NUM—the total now working in Yorkshire

accounts for 23 per cent of the area's NUM members.

In South Wales, a further 87 miners went back yesterday, bringing the proportion now working there to 8 per cent. This is still the lowest for any coalfield—but, two weeks ago, the proportion was less than 2 per cent.

In the north-east, just under 49 per cent of NUM members are now back at work, including the 216 who returned yesterday—made up of 52 at Wearmouth colliery, 42 at Eppleton and 36 at Dawdon.

Scotland is also close to the half-way mark, says the NCB, with 106 miners returning there yesterday, to bring the total working to 457, or 45 per cent.

Figures for other NCB areas, according to the board, were: North Derbyshire, 119 back yesterday (68 per cent working); Nottinghamshire, 11 back (21 per cent); and South Midlands, three back (81 per cent).

Areas such as Notts and South Midlands show very little movement day by day; most miners there have been back at work for months.

Figures confirm the pattern of this week—the remarkable return to work in previously hard-line areas. Yorkshire and South Wales have led the way.

Yorkshire has seen 8 per cent of its entire NUM membership return this week—more in the past five days than in the previous five weeks.

In South Wales, more than two-thirds of those now back at work returned this week. The pressure of the numbers returning forced NUM areas yesterday to recommend a return to work without an agreement, from as early as next week. Whether tomorrow's national delegate conference adopts that strategy—and the likelihood is that it will—it seems certain that the hard areas will do more than crack; the flood is set to turn into a torrent.

NGA faces a clash over jobs policy

By David Goodhart, Labour Staff

THE National Graphical Association could face another battle with the Government's employment legislation after the granting yesterday of an injunction against the union to the Wolverhampton Express and Star.

In a hearing in chambers at Birmingham Crown Court, Mr Justice Hodgson granted the injunction against the NGA and Mr Tom Lowe, its West Midlands branch secretary, because of the union's failure to hold a ballot before instructing members not to accept direct input in the paper's advertising department.

More than 70 NGA members at the Express and Star have been suspended for a week—with a similar number at the Shropshire Star—in the new over new technology and collective bargaining rights.

Although all editions of both papers are appearing, the management has had to cut back heavily on page changes. The judge gave the NGA until Friday to stop

members from breaching their contracts of employment at the Express and Star, the Shropshire Star, and Precision Engineering Ltd.

Pit strike may lead to 6% rise in electricity prices

BY OUR LABOUR STAFF

ELECTRICITY PRICES may rise by about 6 per cent to help cover the 1985-86 knock-on costs of the miners' strike, according to the City stockbrokers Simon and Coates, whose latest estimate of the strike's economic impact puts its cost to the Government at more than £3bn.

Mr Gavin Davies, the stockbrokers' chief economist, says in his report that full recovery of the costs incurred would not be practicable through electricity prices. To recoup the full accounting costs for the electricity industry alone would require a price increase of at least 20 per cent, which would add 0.6 per cent to this year's retail price index.

But a surcharge to cover the "knock-on" costs "seems possible," Mr Davies says.

Costs which will be incurred when the strike ends, the report says, total £600m-£700m, made up of repairs to damaged pits (£100m-£200m); a catch-up on the industry's investment programme (£100m); and rebuilding coal stocks, by perhaps 8-10m tonnes (£400m).

The report lists the main components in the Government's £3,025bn cumulative cash cost of the strike as electricity indus-

try, £1,199m; coal industry, £1,091m; lost income tax, £500m; net police costs, £180m; British Steel, £198m; and social security payments, £49m.

Gross accounting costs, the report says, would be higher, inflating the recently-leaked electricity industry estimate of costs of £2bn. Mr Davies says this is in line with his estimate, since the industry has saved £0.7bn by de-stocking coal.

It has burned about £3.4bn extra oil and gas in the strike, but saved about £1.5bn from its reduced coal burn. Weekly electricity costs peaked at £50-£65m in December-January, the report says, and are falling sharply.

For the coal industry, the report says that it has now lost well over 70m tonnes of output, worth about £3.5bn, but saved at least £2.2bn in reduced wages and other costs. Weekly losses may have risen last month to about £40m.

More wages are being paid to returning miners, but output has not yet increased correspondingly.

Finally, the report says that the total loss to GNP is about 2 per cent, while the balance of payments has suffered by more than £2.5bn.

Councils win school meals wage cut case

By Raymond Hughes, Law Centre Correspondent

THERE WAS "no shred of evidence" that Hertfordshire and East Sussex county councils acted unreasonably when they sacked school meals staff and offered them re-engagement on worse terms than those in a national agreement, Sir John Donaldson, the Master of the Rolls, said in the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The councils, whose spending has been limited by the Government, had been faced with the need to make difficult and disagreeable decisions. It was clear they had examined the problem in detail, Sir John said.

He was giving his reasons for dismissing appeals by the National Union of Public Employees against the High Court's refusal last April to hold that the councils had exceeded their legal powers.

NUPE had argued that the councils had not taken enough account of the adverse effects of not sticking to national agreements. Sir John

BASE LENDING RATES

A.B.N. Bank	14 1/4	C. Hoare & Co.	11 1/4
Allied Irish Bank	14	Hong Kong & Shanghai	14
Henry Anshacher	14	Johnson Matthey Bkrs.	14
Amro Bank	14	Knowles & Co. Ltd.	14 1/4
Armed Trust Ltd.	14 1/4	Lloyds Bank	14
Assurances Cap. Corp.	14	Edward Mannion & Co.	15
Banco de Bilbao	14	Meghraj & Sons Ltd.	13
Bank Hapoalim	14	Midland Bank	14
RCCI	14	Morgan Grenfell	14
Bank of Ireland	14	Mount Credit Corp. Ltd.	14
Bank of Cyprus	14	National Bk. of Kuwait	14
Bank of India	14	National Girobank	14
Bank of Scotland	14	National Westminster	14
Barclays Bank	14	Northern Bank Ltd.	14
Barclays Bank	14	Norwich Gen. Trust	14
Beneficial Trust Ltd.	15	People's Tst. & Sv. Ltd.	15
Brit. Bank of Mid. East	14	Provincial Trust Ltd.	15
Brown Shipley	14	R. Raphael & Sons	14
CL Bank Nederland	14	P. S. Refson	14
Canada Perm. of Trust	14	Roxburgh Guarantee	14 1/4
Cayzer Ltd.	14	Royal Bank of Scotland	14
Cedar Holdings	14	Royal Trust Co. Canada	14
Charterhouse Japbet.	14	Standard Chartered	14 1/4
Choulaty	14	Trade Dev. Bank	14
Citibank NA	14	T.C.B.	14
Citibank Savings	12 1/4	Trustee Savings Bank	14
Clydesdale Bank	14	United Bank of Kuwait	14
C. E. Coates & Co. Ltd.	14 1/4	United Mizrahi Bank	14
Comm. Bk. N. East	14	Westpac Banking Corp.	14
Co-ordinated Credits	14	Whiteaway Laidlaw	14 1/4
Co-operative Bank	14	Williams & Glyn's	14
The Cyprus Popular Bk.	14	Winfest Sec. Ltd.	14
Dunbar & Co. Ltd.	14	Yorkshire Bank	14
Duncan Lawrie	14	Members of the Accepting Houses Committee	
E. T. Trust	14 1/4	Deposits 11%, 1 month	
Exeter Trust Ltd.	14 1/4	11 1/2%, Fixed rate 12 months	
First Nat. Fin. Corp.	15 1/4	12%, 90 days, £10,000 12 months	
First Nat. Secs. Ltd.	14 1/4	12 1/2%, 12 months, £10,000 12 months	
Robert Fleming & Co.	14	7-day deposits on sums of under	
Robert Fraser & Ptns.	14 1/4	£10,000 11%, £10,000 up to £50,000	
Grindlay's Bank	14 1/4	12%, £50,000 and over 12%	
Guinness Mahon	14	Call deposits £1,000 and over 11%	
Hambros Bank	14	21-day deposits over £1,000 12 1/2%	
Hertle & Geo. Trust Ltd.	14	Identical basic rate	
Hill Samuel	14 1/4	5 Demand deposits 11%	
		See Provincial Trust Ltd.	

SAVINGS OFFERS

	Page
Prolife UT	1
National Savings	3
Stey Haywood	4
Midland Bank	4
Says & Prosper	8
A.F.C.	9
Baillie Gifford	10
Citibank	10
Equity & Law	11
Nationwide	12
James Finlay	12
Herbert Fund Managers	12
D. W. Thomas	13
Chelsea Building Society	32

FUTURES INSTRUMENTS

FUTURES TRADING
FUTURES/RISK PROTECTION

The Banker in May will be discussing the futures markets around the world. The link-ups between exchanges and the international dealers and brokers who operate across the world's leading markets.

Banks, brokers and institutions committed to the expansion of the international futures markets who wish to advertise in the May issue of The Banker should contact:

The Marketing Director
THE BANKER
102 Clerkenwell Road, London EC1
01-251 9321 Telex: 23700

Joseph 'inflaming NUT'

BY OUR LABOUR STAFF

SIR KEITH JOSEPH, Education Secretary, was accused last night of "pouring more and more oil on the flames" of the teachers' pay dispute.

The charge came from Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, after Sir Keith warned in a BBC radio interview that teachers' strike action might be jeopardising their chances of getting any money at all from the Government for a new contract.

The minister also said the 7 or 7.5 per cent suggested by the employers as the reward

for accepting a new contract would be payable only over a long period. "I think two years would be a bit optimistic."

Meanwhile, the Minister was also exchanging tart words over the teachers' dispute with Mr Giles Radice, Labour's education spokesman. He told Mr Radice that his earlier letter accusing Sir Keith of supplanting hopes of a settlement was "quite preposterous."

In other developments yesterday, the unions responded to the employers' offer of conciliation with a seven-point list of demands for clarification.

THE FINANCIAL TIMES
invite you to accept a
NO-RISK TRIAL
of the world's premier advisory service in all fields of
international finance, foreign exchange, country risk,
foreign regulations and laws ...

INTERNATIONAL
REPORTS

Each weekly issue—mailed by air every Friday from New York (hand-delivery in a growing list of major cities worldwide)—brings you inside information gathered from the major world financial centres by an exclusive global network of economists, reporters and operatives in every level of business, banking and government—information that is compiled into anticipations, forecasts, and analyses along with a vast compendium of invaluable statistics by the world's most knowledgeable editorial and research staff.

Six essential services in one:

1. Anticipations of key developments in countries around the world... Editorial comments on all aspects of banking, finance and foreign exchange.
2. International Country Analyses and forecasts of upcoming developments in the investment, foreign exchange and legislative fields, with emphasis on new and innovative opportunities.
3. Foreign Exchange Projections that include up-to-the-minute hedging advice and projections for all key—and many "exotic"—currencies.
4. International Interest Rates.
5. International Loan Syndication and Bond Markets.
6. Statistical Market Letter and Monthly Chart Service, in easy-to-read formats available only through International Reports.

Includes: Official Free and Parallel Market Rates in Foreign Exchange for 97 Countries; International Money and Capital Market Rates with Field Possibilities in international arbitrage for 22 countries and currencies... Survey of A.R.I. Loan Costs... Complete Cross-Rate Survey of Major Currencies... and more.

USE THE COUPON BELOW FOR A NO-RISK TRIAL

TRIAL SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please enroll me for a trial subscription to Financial Times International Reports.

I understand you will send me the first four issues free and if I cancel before receiving my fifth issue I will owe nothing. If you do not hear from me, you will continue to send me copies of Financial Times International Reports every week for the next year and invoice me at the regular annual subscription price.

I also understand that when I reply now, I also receive free copy of the book "The A-Z of Debt Relief Schemes". Annual subscription 1985: £145 N.T. & Overseas.

☐ Payment enclosed Cheque payable to FT Business Information Ltd.

☐ Please invoice me

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

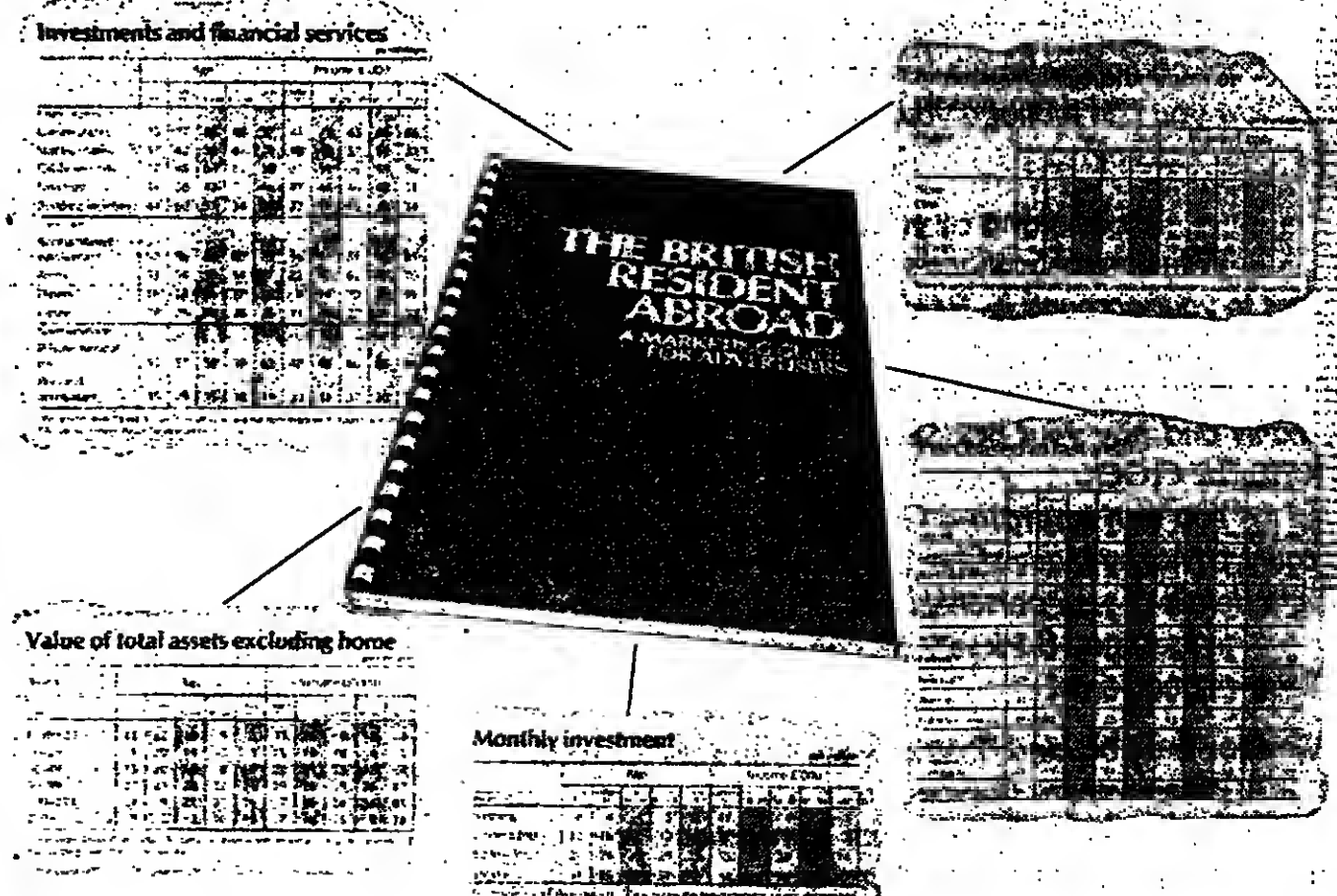
Nature of Business _____

Telephone _____ Date _____ Signature _____

Please return this form to Marketing Dept., Financial Times Business Information Ltd., Tower House, Southampton Street, London WC2R 3LF.

For address: Bowdon House, 21 Cannon St, London EC4A 3DF. Telex: 44000.

What would you give to learn
a lot more about the £60 billion
world of the British expatriate?



How about £95?

How much do you know about a market where the average investor is putting away over £500 a month? Where over half earn over £30,000 a year? Or, to move from the sublime to the glib, where 22% of under 35's as opposed to just 6% of over 55's took a skiing holiday?

We thought we should take a closer look and with MORI's help, that's just what we did.

The results are available now from The Financial Times Business Information—the who, what, where, why and how guide to Britain's two million expatriates.



F.T. Business Information Ltd.

ACTION POINT Please return to: Rodney Williams, Resident Abroad, FT Business Information, Greyhound Place, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1ND. Please send me _____ copy/copies of THE BRITISH RESIDENT ABROAD @ £95.00.

☐ I enclose a cheque/PO

☐ Please debit my credit card account ☐ Amex ☐ Visa

☐ Access ☐ Diners Club ☐ Enquiry ☐ Date

Card No. _____

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Signature _____

FREE BOOK
When you reply by
30th April 1985
The A-Z of Debt Relief Schemes
is the authoritative text on the complex
business of debt relief world-wide.
Normally priced at £41—when you
accept this Trial Subscription offer
before 30th April 1985, this book
is yours to keep free.

AND 4 ISSUES FREE!
Every week for the next four weeks you can receive a free copy
of Financial Times International Reports. You can cancel, tell
us after the fourth issue—you owe nothing.
Any money paid will be refunded in full.

INTRODUCTORY
TRIAL

كتاب العمل

WEEK IN THE MARKETS

FINANCE AND THE FAMILY

Dollar debacle hits bonds

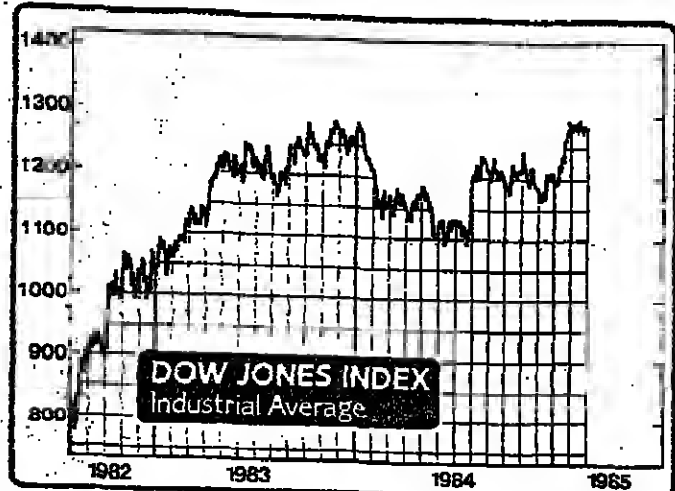
NEW YORK
TERRY DODSWORTH

IT IS not often that the U.S. equity market finds itself in a direct struggle with the far-ranging world of foreign exchange, but this was one of those weeks. The wild gyrations of the dollar, attacked in force by the combined ranks of the European central banks, has fed dramatically into the U.S. credit markets, forcing up interest rates sharply. Understandably, equities have simply not been able to escape what was happening to rates.

For bonds as well, this process of cause and effect was also somewhat unusual. Until very recently, the Wall Street consensus was that the dollar was being held up very substantially by the high yields available on U.S. debt instruments. The escalating demands of the U.S. Treasury were combining with the heavy requirements of the corporate sector to keep the price of funds high by historic standards—and foreigners were buying the dollar to cash in on the returns available in the U.S. But this argument was turned upside down in the course of the dollar debacle this week.

It all started yet again with Mr. Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, appearing at another committee meeting down in Washington. In a series of oblique remarks, he eventually convinced Wall Street that he would like to intervene to push the dollar down, stronger central bank intervention to tighten credit conditions in the U.S. The belief is that, after its more relaxed monetary posture late last year, the Fed would like to rein in credit growth, but has been worried that any move to push interest rates higher would also send the dollar up to unacceptable levels.

From here, it was only a small step to the massive sell-off in the bond market which saw the Treasury long bond fall by two whole points on Wednesday, its biggest decline in 18 months. Investors had convinced themselves that the direction of rates for the time being is unequivocally up, and the ripple effect spread throughout the credit markets. By Wednesday evening, the yield on the Treasury 30-year long bond had jumped from 17.0 per cent on the previous



Friday, night to 1.92 per cent, while three-month bills were up from 8.38 per cent to 8.49 per cent. Only seven days before, the long bond yield had stood at 11.38 per cent.

Under these conditions, equities did reasonably well to hold their own. In the Wednesday bloodbath, as both bond and currency dealers were swept along by panic rather than reasoned argument, the Dow Jones Industrial Average lost only a little over five points, easily maintaining the equity market on the new plateau it established for itself in the January rally.

Some of this strength came from the perception that there are a great number of U.S. companies who will benefit from a decline in the dollar. Many of the big computer concerns, led by IBM, the giant of the industry, have been complaining vociferously recently about the damaging impact the dollar will have on their profits from overseas sales in the first quarter. There are, equally, many other companies that would benefit from a reduction in competitive pressures in the domestic market, where they are under incessant assault from cheap imports.

These arguments, particularly on the export side, were reflected in the strength of the drug companies on Wednesday. Even technology stocks, bent to some degree, though they have been knocked around recently by other factors, including indications that sales will be depressed in the first quarter—Intel, the semiconductor manufacturer, said this week that its first-quarter revenues may be around 15 per cent lower than the final quarter of last year.

The area in which equities clearly are vulnerable in the present atmosphere is interest

rates—in two senses. A rise in rates would cut deeply into pre-tax corporate profits because of the very high level of short-term debt now being carried by U.S. companies. These borrowings have to be refunded, and this may be at substantially higher rates in the near future. At the same time, the expected increase in returns on the U.S. debt instruments would make it more difficult for equity yields to compete with bonds.

At present, many analysts believe that the equity market ought to be able to hold its own on the yield arguments as long as there is not another upward swing in rates. The yield on shares in the Dow Jones Industrial Average now stands at around 4.7 per cent, and it should gain by what are expected to be generous increases in dividends this year.

The danger, say the sceptics, is that the current yield gap of around 7.2 percentage points between equities and long bonds may expand because of increasing interest rates. But there is still a very strong lobby for the view that inflation is in long-term retreat, and that interest rates will eventually respond by coming down.

Some forecasters, such as Prudential Bache, are arguing that the failure of a contrary bear trend to establish itself on Wall Street in the past fortnight means that the early-year hull market will break out again later this month; and First Boston contends that the auguries are so good for equities that the Dow Jones Industrial Average could be to the 1930-1980 range by the end of the year.

MONDAY	1277.50	+1.66
TUESDAY	1286.11	+8.61
WEDNESDAY	1281.03	-5.08
THURSDAY	1284.01	+2.98

Two-home tax preparations

BY OUR LEGAL STAFF

My wife and I own our own house (on mortgage) and I am due to retire in 1988 but this could be earlier depending on employment conditions.

In preparation for retirement, my wife and I have found a bungalow some 73 miles from my present home. We are keen to purchase this, with help from a building society or bank, for our eventual retirement.

The bungalow is in a poor state of repair, it needs some structural alterations and repairs, a complete re-wire, installation of a central heating system, and complete redecoration inside and out. Some of this work we hope to do ourselves at weekends and holidays and some done by professionals. Of course when this work is completed we would not let or sell the bungalow.

If I go ahead and buy this bungalow and only live in it (working most weekends and holidays) will I be liable for capital gains tax when I eventually sell my present house? Would it be possible to get tax relief on a building society mortgage or bank loan for the necessary installation and work on the bungalow?

First the bad news: it is unlikely that you will get tax relief on the mortgage (or loan) interest. Ask your tax inspector for a copy of the free explanatory booklet IR11, entitled Tax Treatment of Interest Paid. It may help you to see how a few modifications to your timetable could increase your chances of getting relief for the interest, by concession. In any event, there is nothing to lose by asking the inspector to exercise his discretion in your favour.

Before the second anniversary of the contract for the purchase of the bungalow (not the completion date), you and your wife should give formal notice to the inspector that your present home (the house) is to be regarded as your main

residence. For CGT purposes, ever since the bungalow was purchased. This procedure is outlined in the free pamphlet CGT4, entitled Capital Gains Tax—Owner-occupied Houses, which you could ask for at the same time as the IR11 booklet.

On the day of the contract for the sale of the house, in a few years' time, you and your wife should give notice that the bungalow is to be regarded as your main residence, for CGT purposes, with effect from the day two years beforehand. This notice will mean that you have no CGT to pay on the sale of the house, and that the potential CGT bill upon any eventual sale of the bungalow will be kept to a minimum.

These notices for CGT purposes have no effect on the question of tax relief for the mortgage/loan interest.

Fortunately, the solicitors who act for you in the purchase of the bungalow will be able to guide you through the maze of arbitrary tax rules laid down by Parliament, over the years. Of course, the Chancellor may sweep away some of the more time-consuming rules on March 19.

Domiciled in Japan

I am domiciled in Japan and have been a UK resident for more than nine years. A friend of mine, also domiciled in Japan who has been a UK resident for seven years says he has recently received a letter from the Inland Revenue, saying that they will change his domicile in the UK, unless he clearly states for how many more years he intends to stay in the UK together with the possibility of that length. I have a small flat in the UK for my own use, but do not have a property in Japan. I can buy a small house in Japan, if it is better to do so

in order to retain the domicile in Japan. I have a small life insurance of £19,500 in the UK. If paying into the Japanese National Insurance is important to demonstrate that I intend to go back to Japan eventually, I may be able to start paying the premium.

Tell your friend not to let the Inland Revenue's paper tigers worry him. It is clear that your Japanese domicile of origin is unshakable, and this is probably equally true for your friend. Maybe he would like to write to us, with background details as you have.

There is no need for you to worry (or to do anything which you do not really want to); the Inland Revenue cannot set your Japanese domicile aside and deem you to have acquired a domicile of choice in England and Wales, from what you say.

Persuading father

I am writing to seek your advice on a financial/legal problem. In 1978 my parents gave my sister £10,000 towards the purchase of a house. I believe this was given in two lump sums spread over two financial years.

During 1984 my sister moved house, sold her property and from the sale of the proceeds returned the £10,000 to my parents.

My father insists that he does not need the money, i.e. it was intended as a gift and not a loan, and has given me a cheque for £10,000 with the request that I invest it for the benefit of his grand-daughter, my sister's daughter, who is aged 13, without her knowledge on the basis that the principal plus accrued income is to be handed over when she reaches 21 years old.

Is it a Trust Fund I am talking about and if so how do I go about setting it up and administering it etc.

What about the tax position, i.e. with regards to my niece, and Capital Transfer Tax, if it is appropriate.

Before you pay the cheque into your bank, try to persuade your father to have a trust deed drawn up by his solicitor. Point out to him that (a) accumulated income may attract 45 per cent income tax under section 16 of the Finance Act 1973, unless it is clearly set down that your niece's interest in the £10,000 is absolute, rather than contingent, (b) a secret unwritten trust would be difficult to explain convincingly to the Inland Revenue, (c) if you and your father should die—in an accident, for example—during the next few years, the precise terms of an informal trust might be difficult or impossible for those left behind to establish, (d) the operation of the Trustee Act 1925 might frustrate your father's wishes if nothing is put in writing formally, and (e) your powers of investment ought to be defined, if they are not intended to be limited by the rather outdated statutory restrictions.

If your father demurs, you should seek a solicitor's advice before accepting what could well be a thankless and worrying trusteeship. Suppose, for example, that your father and your niece were killed in an accident, what should be done with the money (and how would you prove it)?

Frozen pipes

I would value your advice regarding a furnished two room flat that I own. The tenant has complained of frozen pipes and cannot get water in the kitchen or toilet. She has asked me to get a plumber and of course pay for him.

No legal responsibility can be accepted by the Financial Times for the answers given in these columns. All inquiries will be answered by post as soon as possible.

Can you tell me if a landlord has to pay for the tenant's plumbing such as the trouble we are all experiencing in this freezing weather. Incidentally we cannot get water from our own kitchen tap this week

If the tenant is holding under a tenancy for a term of less than seven years the landlord is responsible for keeping the water supply pipes in working order.

Paying for access road

A large country house has a private access road half-a-mile long. Twenty-five years ago the owner sold plots of adjoining land for three houses. The owner granted a wheeled right of way to three houses "each purchaser paying one quarter of the cost of maintaining the road." Six years ago the owner sold the large house and the extensive outbuildings to a development company for conversion into 22 flats, ten of which were later sold to owner-occupiers. These ten owners have wheeled right of way but no liability for repair costs. The increased traffic on the old road means that major repairs are now necessary. The company has advised me that the cost will be £12,000 and my quarter share will be £3,000.

I propose to dispute this on the grounds of "proportionate user" but I accept that I can be barracked in. Please can you comment on my prospects, and am I likely to spend more than £3,000 on court costs?

Your prospects are somewhat doubtful. We would advise you to consult a solicitor. The costs should not exceed the sum you mention unless you lose and the other side have been put to unusual expense.

INCOME TAX RELIEF FOR 1984/85

Closing date—12th March 1985.

Lockton Developments plc

property development

Offer for Subscription under the
Business Expansion Scheme of up to £7,500,000

sponsored by

Guinness Mahon & Co. Limited

★ Asset backed

★ Conservatively financed

★ Extensive property development expertise

Lockton Developments plc will be involved principally in commercial, industrial and retail property developments.

The directors will pursue a conservative policy to achieve a secure growth of assets and provide a high degree of stability to the Company.

Individual subscribers should, depending on their circumstances, be able to obtain income tax relief at their highest rates of tax in respect of the year ending 5th April 1985.

Telephone 01-623 9333 (24hr service) for a copy of the Prospectus or complete the coupon below.

This advertisement does not constitute an invitation to subscribe for shares.

To: Guinness Mahon & Co Limited
32 St Mary at Hill, LONDON EC3P 3AJ.
Please send me a copy of the Prospectus for Lockton Developments plc.

Name _____

Address _____

Up to 4% commission will be paid to professional intermediaries through whom successful applications are submitted.

F12/3

SMITHFIELD DEVELOPMENTS PLC

For details of
Offer for Subscription
of up to 2,000,000 ordinary shares
at £1 per share
See page 3
Sponsored by
NOBLE GROSSART LIMITED

Guinness Mahon
GLOBAL STRATEGY FUND LTD
P.O. Box 188, La Verne Lane, St Peter Port,
Guernsey, G.I. 1 2L 0401 23506

US \$ Money	518.79	20.11
£ Money	517.95	10.10
Yen Money	GM15.97	50.17
£ Fixed Int.	10.21	10.21
£ Lib. Int.	10.21	10.21
US \$ 5 Yr. Int.	517.88	19.04
Global Equ.	518.50	18.53
North American	518.85	19.59
Jan. & Pacht.	518.53	19.94
UK Equity	518.93	19.70
Global Tech.	519.70	20.32
Global Indus.	518.42	19.28
Global Low.	517.00	18.10
Man. Cur.	517.00	18.10

Prices as at 28th February, 1985

Friday trading. All prices quoted without interest charge.
Get 2% for investments under £50,000

Investment Trusts balance your portfolio

If you have not already done so, you should consider Investment Trusts for your investment portfolio.

They offer a wide spectrum of interesting investments ranging from established companies to exciting new hi-tech industries both in the UK and Internationally. For years Investment Trusts have been at the forefront of investing in major projects and new developments. The Computer Industry and North Sea Oil were both supported by Investment Trusts and in the process, produced excellent results for the investors.

By adding Investment Trusts to your portfolio you will be spreading the risk and, at the same time, taking advantage of exciting new growth opportunities. In a nutshell, Investment Trusts will complement your other investments, to provide a perfect balance.

For more facts and figures fill in the coupon and we'll send them together with a list of stockbrokers who will be happy to help you and give you a balanced view.

Investment Trusts.
Your shares of the action.

For more information on Investment Trusts and stock-brokers who deal with private clients please send for our FREE booklet "More for your money". (Block capitals please.)

Please send me _____ copy/copies.

Name _____

Address _____

FTH1

If you are an investment adviser, please indicate your profession: Stockbroker ☐ Accountant ☐ Solicitor ☐ Insurance broker ☐ Banker ☐ Other investment adviser ☐
To: The Association of Investment Trust Companies, FREEPOST, Dept B, TRENCESTER, Gloucestershire GL1 1BR. No stamp required in U.K.

THE WEEK IN THE MARKETS

Ambition unlimited

"WE ARE Mr First, the man in the middle," says 47-year-old Mr Christopher Norland, chief executive of one of the USA's few finance companies, Industrial Finance and Investment Corporation.

This week, Mr Norland has fired it for the jeans and casual-wear company Pepe Group, by sponsoring its USM flotation.

It is an example of IFICO's skill in securing for companies, and for local authorities, a wide range of finance. Leasing, management buy-outs, venture capital tax breaks and loans are all part of IFICO's book. It is also a licensed deposit-taker and securities dealer.

At present, the company is

Unlisted Securities Market

The shares were placed at 52p when they were floated on the USM in 1982. Since then, profits have grown from £225,000 in the year to June 1982 to £732,000 last year and £439,000 for the first half of the present year. They are expected to top £1m by June, and IFICO intends to leave the USM for a full listing.

The company originally had close links with accountants Finkle Ross Allfields, where Mr Norland had been the chief executive. But it has since developed by building up contacts with small and medium-sized firms of chartered accountants and solicitors across the country.

Mr Norland says these firms turn to IFICO when they find that client companies need help with financing. An early success was the flotation of one of the USM's most glamorous companies—Miss World Group, which reported good profits for 1984 this week.

The East of Scotland bid would allow the company to expand in various ways—most notably, by playing a much larger role in funding, providing a share of the money raised for clients.

Clearly, there are risks involved in backing IFICO. The company's excellent track record over the past three years has been achieved against the background of a very long-running bull market in which companies have been very keen to raise capital. In its present form, under Mr Norland, it has yet to show its mettle in more difficult conditions.

The City revolution certainly opens up possibilities for small, feet-footed finance companies, but competition in profitable areas is likely to be intense. IFICO does have useful contacts outside the City—but this, too, is a field in which there are competitors: for example, ICFI.

On balance, the shares—trading on a multiple of about 10, assuming full-year profits of £1.1m and a 30 per cent tax charge—do not look expensive. But investors should be aware that small finance company shares of this kind tend to be volatile.

Stefan Wagstyl

Equities pushed into back seat

LONDON ONLOOKER

THERE was action galore in the foreign exchange and gilt-edged markets this week. The dollar stole the headlines on Monday as central banks appeared powerless to halt the upward progression of the "green-back". In London, the pound finished trading at an all-time closing low of \$1.054. But 48 hours can seem a lifetime on foreign exchange markets and a concerted effort by those "powerless" bankers on Wednesday had the dollar on the run in chaotic trading conditions.

By Wednesday evening sterling was back up to \$1.088 in London. At last the market had been shown that central banks have some real influence over their currencies. But it would still take a brave man to suggest that the setback marks a turning point in the currency's underlying strength. There are plenty of observers around who maintain it is still in a strong bull phase.

The gilt market was rocked on Thursday by the Government's move to close a long-standing tax loophole. The Inland Revenue is introducing new rules that will end the practice of "bond-washing". This is a device whereby funds sell gilts with accrued interest ahead of a dividend payment, in effect, turning income into capital gains, and then buy them back later. The Revenue believes this costs the Government £300m in lost tax and is calling a halt to the practice by changing the tax rules.

The initial reaction was to mark down high-coupon stocks and push up the prices of low-coupon and index-linked issues where trading prices reflect less of an income element.

If the gilt market was thrown into confusion there was some positive news for the equity market. The authorities appeared to be signalling that there would be no action against the tax freedom of pension schemes. After the bond-washing announcement the life insurance sector saw an overall rise in share prices of 2 per cent.

As for equities generally, well they seemed to be quietly twitching in their sleep ahead of an alarm call on the afternoon of March 19, but it looks increasingly likely that the Budget will be a muted affair.

ICI over £1bn

As far back as last April, when ICI turned in first quarter profits of £245m, the market has been suggesting that the chemicals giant could be the first British industrial group to break the £1bn profits barrier. That suggestion turned into conviction as the quarterly figures mounted and for the last few months the only doubt

was by how much the £1bn could be surpassed.

On Thursday Mr John Harvey-Jones, ICI's chairman, revealed £1,034m pre-tax, a rise of two-thirds against 1983 and a result he proudly proclaimed as "Evidence that we are one of the world's most successful and profitable chemical companies." Even from a less subjective standpoint the group's achievement is pretty staggering. It was only a couple of years back that analysts were suggesting ICI would only make £600m to £650m in 1984.

The shares, however, reacted perversely to the news. Given that the market had been anticipating something in the region of £1,050m for a while it would have been unreasonable to expect the price to go plunging forward but a fall of 21p to 855p looked puzzling especially as the shares were rising until Wall Street opened and Americans started selling. There was some suggestion that U.S. brokers found the prospect of a 35 per cent profit improvement disappointing though possibly New York had adroitly spotted the 13m share placing on the way to finance the Beatrice acquisition.

But whatever the shares did on Thursday the management deserves congratulating for the way it has pulled the group around and brought down the break-even level in its commodity product operations. By far the biggest improvement came from the petrochemicals and plastics division where the

previous year's loss of £7m was turned into a trading profit of £138m.

Chemical sales jumped by 23 per cent overseas (almost three-quarters of turnover arises outside the UK) while at home the advance was 7 per cent. Prices were increased by some 4 per cent during the year and volume growth was about 8 per cent. Admittedly the group had a fair amount of luck on its side. The performance of the dollar added around £100m to profits while the improvement of the group's oil business was clearly thanks to factors beyond its control.

Mr Harvey-Jones is setting his sights on a profits improvement for 1985 though the rate of increase is not going to be anything like as dramatic as in 1984. Early estimates by the brokers indicate something between £1.1bn and £1.2bn but the antics of the dollar are important and just two months into the year forecasts have to be fairly tentative. A prospective p/e of under eight hardly does justice to ICI's achievements even if it is heading into a year of relatively pedestrian growth.

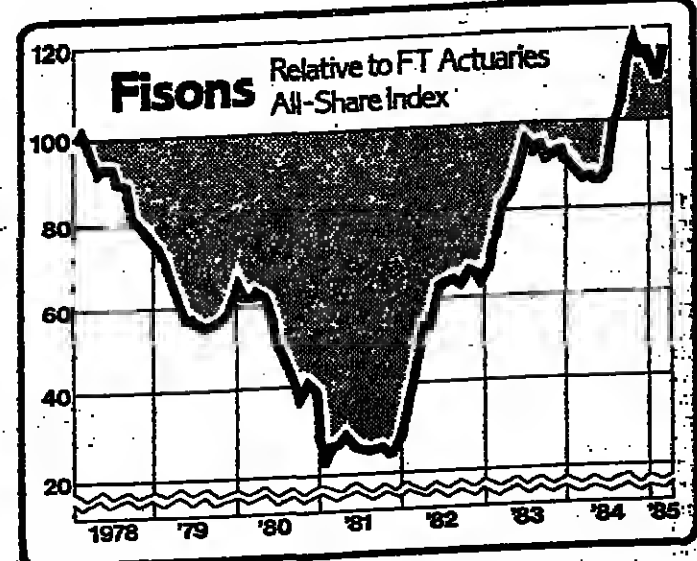
Fisons' rights

If ICI was disappointed by the way the market greeted its results Mr John Kerridge, chairman of Fisons, could not have hoped for a better reception for his annual figures on Thursday even though they were accompanied by the much rumoured rights issue.

All three divisions—pharmaceuticals, scientific equipment and horticulture—produced record profits adding up to a 55 per cent rise at the pre-tax level to £48.3m. Earnings per share rose by 35 per cent and shareholders received a 20 per cent improvement in the dividend payout.

On the pharmaceuticals side domestic operations have been slightly restrained but there has been good growth from the U.S. where sales jumped by 75 per cent in sterling terms. All three of Fisons' main allergy drugs are now well established in North America.

The rights issue, on the basis of one-for-five at 245p a share, raising £94.5m, is the second within two years, but the market accepted the news without a murmur thanks to the buoyant full-year figures. On the face of it Fisons is not an obvious candidate for an issue. Capital gearing is only around 33 per cent but the management argues that half the money raised will refinance earlier expenditure on acquisitions and capital investment and the rest will sit ready to exploit future



opportunities.

Mr Kerridge says the group is interested in buying pharmaceutical businesses in Europe and the U.S. and adding to the scientific equipment division, moving it into slightly higher technology. Given his track record with acquisitions, shareholders should experience few problems in justifying a further investment in the group. Assuming profits of £70m this year the prospective earnings multiple is around 18 which may not be as attractive as the likes of Boots or Beecham for instance but given the recent trading performance the shares should have little difficulty in holding their rating.

Reuters hits £74.3m

Reuters has beaten its prospective profits forecast by a respectable margin. Having predicted around £70m pre-tax for the year the group unveiled a maiden set of results this week showing a 34 per cent increase to £74.3m. The week of the pound hiccup but it inflated the latest figure by no more than £3m.

Yet that rapid rate of growth is exactly what the stock market demands from high-technology groups immersed in the fast growing world of electronic communications. The shares have travelled far since the bankers set the striding price at 198p last summer and have outperformed the market by around 20 per cent in the last three months. If Reuters had done anything less than beat its forecast by a few percentage points the directors could have expected a very cool reception from the City.

Living up to a historic earnings multiple of 33 is no easy task especially with the group facing a relatively sluggish rate of growth in the vital North American market. Last year revenues from that source in-

creased by only 20 per cent against 29 per cent from the European backlog and 36 per cent from the Far and Middle East.

Failures and mergers amongst U.S. commodity dealers are blamed for the result but surely Reuters cannot be entirely happy that its activities across the Atlantic trailed behind the rest of the group, no matter how good the extenuating circumstances. So the acquisition of Rich, a Chicago-based leader in the field of dealing room systems, for \$97.5m which was announced alongside the results, is perhaps of greater significance than it may at first appear.

Reuters has a commendable reputation and is proving itself agile at creating new products. Its latest idea is to provide an equity dealing service in the UK. Traders would be able to buy and sell shares through their Reuters terminals. In the U.S., however, the competition is no less inventive and the purchase of Rich must be seen to add some extra bite to its marketing.

Rich accounts for around 80 per cent of the North American market for its type of dealing system. If Reuters can climb aboard as this substantial hardware clinches its orders it will obviously ease the way for its U.S. expansion.

Not that the benefits of acquisition will flow just one way. The Reuters service fits naturally alongside Rich systems and the latter's sales should be enhanced too. Both sides are probably hoping that two plus two can equal five. In London analysts are already talking of £100m as a minimum target though with £84m in cash and highly rated equity Reuters may add further to its list of activities before next December comes round.

Terry Garrett

MARKET HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

	Price	Change	1984/5	1984/5	
	7/day	on week	High	Low	
F.T. Ord. Index	975.0	-0.2	1,024.5	755.3	Uncertain despite pound's rally.
Baggeridge Brick	255	+35	255	124	Speculative buying
BP	525	-40	575	395	Weak oil prices/figs. on Thurs.
Burnett & Hallamshire	70	-95	205	60	Debt problems
Cape Inds.	38	+4	118	32	Sale of auto. business to BBA
Group Lotus Car	91	+15	91	54	Chrysler link rumours
Jagg Robinson	278	+18	281	130	Revived speculative demand
House of Fraser	346	+30	346	220	Speculative demand
ICI	842	-38	885	526	U.S. selling after results
Imperial Group	185cd	-164	222	134	Withdrawal of U.S. support
Intec	47	-13	85	47	Interim profits setback
Invent Energy	790	+130	790	280	Good results/exploration hopes
Jackson (J. & H.B.)	84cd	+20	84	50	Takeover hopes
Leeds Group	160	+20	160	97	Bid speculation
Marley	84	-6	104	65	Disappointing annual results
Martin (R.P.)	435	+40	440	220	Quadrax bids 450p per share
Oilfield Inspection Servs.	140	+45	210	70	Speculative buying
Oxford Instruments	278	+35	333	238	Bid speculation
Ratners (Jewellers)	62	+16	62	40	Speculative demand
Style	198	+13	210	79	Ziff family purchases KIO stake

trying to pull off a complicated deal to fund its own future development. In a contested takeover bid, ICI is attempting to acquire East of Scotland Onshore, a specialist energy investment trust.

It is the USM's first experience of a financing method which already has been tried successfully by several main market companies—the disguised rights issue. If the bid succeeds, IFICO would more than double its issued capital in paying for East of Scotland in shares, and then sell the trust's investments for cash. East of Scotland's total net asset value last November was put at £6.72m.

The market so far has reacted positively to news of the bid—IFICO shares which were 150p before the announcement three weeks ago were trading at 235p at the end of this week.

TOMORROW'S WORLD

TODAY'S MOST EXCITING INVESTMENT

From communications satellites to programmable washing machines, from word processors to industrial robots, new technology is having a profound impact on the way we live and work.

At Save & Prosper we spotted the exciting investment potential of high technology companies at an early stage. And in June 1981 we launched our New Technology Fund to provide investors with an international spread of holdings in technology companies likely to achieve rapid growth.

In under four years this Fund has established itself as one of the top performing funds of its kind, the unit offer price increasing by 139.4% to 26th February 1985.

Today we believe there is great scope for growth from new technology companies.

Excellent prospects worldwide

The bulk of the portfolio is invested in those countries in the forefront of technological advance—currently USA (40%), Japan (35%) and the UK (20%). To maximise long-term potential, we switch actively between the major markets.

Within the USA our main focus is now on smaller companies capable of producing above-average profits growth. From these we select those most likely to outperform the market on Wall Street. In Japan huge research and development programmes have resulted in world leadership in spheres such as super-fast computers, biotechnology and laser optical discs. For this reason our current holdings are mainly in companies with an almost unchallenged dominance, companies likely to prove highly profitable in the years ahead.

Our approach to UK companies is different again. Here emphasis has been on larger blue chip companies with all the resources required to exploit advances in electronics, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology. Overall we believe this international spread provides a sound basis for capital growth.

Invest today

Simply complete and return the coupon, together with your cheque (minimum £250) or tick the box for details of regular saving from £20 a month. New Technology Fund goes all out for capital growth and currently has a nil yield. On 26th February 1985 the offer price of units was 119.7p. Remember that the price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up.

NEW TECHNOLOGY FUND

GENERAL INFORMATION

Fund objective: To provide long-term capital growth through investment in the shares of companies operating in the field of new technology. Dealing in units may normally be bought or sold on any working day. Certificates will normally be forwarded within 14 days. When units are sold back to the Managers, payment is normally made within 7 days of their receiving the necessary certificates. Prices and the yield are quoted in the Financial Times, The Times and on Pressat 48126.

Net income distribution (if any) 15th February each year. Charges: Initial charge: 5% plus rounding adjustment not exceeding the lower of 1% or 1.25p per unit. Redemption (at rates available on request) will be paid to authorised professional advisers. Annual charges: currently 1% of the Fund plus VAT. This charge is deducted from the Fund's assets to meet Managers' expenses, including Trustees' fees.

Investment powers: The Managers have executed a supplemental trust deed enabling them to purchase and write traded options, subject to the limitations laid down by the Department of Trade and Industry. Safeguards: The Fund is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and is a "under-charge" investment under the Trustee Investments Act 1961. Trustees: Bank of Scotland, Managers: Save & Prosper Securities Limited, 4 Great St Helens, London EC2P 3EP. Tel: 0708-66966. A member of the Unit Trust Association.

To: Save & Prosper Securities Limited, FREEPOST, Ransford KM1 1BR. Telephone: 0708-66966.

I wish to invest £ (minimum £250 initially; £100 subsequently) in Save & Prosper New Technology Fund at the offer price prevailing on the day of receipt of my application. I enclose a cheque made payable to Save & Prosper Securities Limited, I am over 18. I would like distributions of income to be reinvested in the fund units. *Delete if not applicable. Please send me details about regular saving in New Technology Fund ☐

First Name(s) _____

Surname Mr Mrs/Miss _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Existing Account No. (if any) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

AGENT'S STAMP 033 FOR OFFICE USE ONLY F.R. R.A. C.T. No. _____

This offer is valid until 31st March 1985. Offer ends 31st March 1985. Offer ends 31st March 1985.

SAVE & PROSPER

"IF THERE is no improvement in (metal) prices from today and no changes in currency values, trading profit in the second half will not exceed that for the first half."

These words—famous last words—came last September with the results for the first six months of 1984 issued by CRA, the Rio Tinto-Zinc group's big Australian mining arm which was reporting a net profit of A\$31.8m for the period.

This week CRA has announced a net loss of A\$2.5m for the second half of 1984. So the net profit for the full year is reduced to A\$29.5m, equal to 6 cents per share, from A\$71.5m in 1983. Inevitably, the dividend total for 1984 has been cut to 8 cents from 12 cents.

The outcome looks rather worse than it need be owing to CRA's cautious policy of making a particularly generous provision for depreciation, up to A\$289.6m from A\$269.6m, and for providing for potential currency losses as well as for those actually realised. However, this does not alter the fact that the group is going through a tough time.

As we all know, metal prices weakened in the second half of last year while currencies became even further out of time; the strength of the U.S. dollar contrasted with the weakness of the Australian dollar. There is a "snakes and ladders" aspect

MINING

Snakes & Ladders

to currency movements as well as, some might say, Australian accounting practice.

While the fall in the value of the Australian dollar has enhanced CRA revenue in terms of the products it sells for U.S. dollars, it has made the repayment, and interest on, loans designated in U.S. dollars that much more expensive. Conversely, if the U.S. dollar falls and the Australian currency rises, CRA is not going to be much, if any, better off.

What the group, and all others like it, really needs is a genuine rise in metal prices, notably copper and aluminium, and an improvement in coal markets. Ironically, demand for metals is good but it has not reached the point at which surplus stocks have been mopped up to allow increases in real prices.

The Consolidated Gold Fields group, 49 per cent-owned Kensington Goldfields Consolidated (RGC) sees "some signs for optimism" and promises further comment on its prospects in about three weeks' time. The Australian group has seen its pre-tax earnings for the six months to December 31 tumble

by 49 per cent to A\$4.09m.

Still, the fortunes of the snakes and ladders board have allowed RGC to fight the period to a draw at net level. Helped by an exceptionally low tax charge and a profit on the sale of assets from the closed-down Gunpowder copper mine, RGC comes out with distributable profits of A\$4.5m for the half year against A\$4.65m last time.

The company is also suffering from low copper prices while its splendid big tin mine in Tasmania has to operate at less than capacity owing to the export restrictions imposed by the International Tin Agreement in its efforts to remove surplus stocks from the market.

On the other side of the coin, there has been a strong recovery in demand and prices for the mineral sands produced by RGC while the final quarter of this year should bring the start-up of two new gold operations, at Pine Point in the Northern Territory and Wau in Papua New Guinea.

Things are also looking up—well, to some extent—for the minority shareholders in Selstrust Holdings, the 75.4 per cent-owned struggling Australian

mining subsidiary of British Petroleum. The latter, presumably chastened by the resounding rejection of its earlier restructuring proposals for Selstrust, has come up with a better deal.

Selstrust is not to be broken up and its assets sold for what they may fetch, as BP earlier threatened. Instead, BP is to take over the debts and the bulk of the non-gold assets, as before. The rest is to be put into a new company.

Selstrust holders will be offered 31 shares in this company, plus options to buy a further 31 shares at 20 cents, for every Selstrust share held. Under the new deal, the new company is to have cash assets of A\$9.2m compared with the originally proposed A\$8m and it will also be given a 9.5 per cent stake in the Agnew mine.

It will retain the 75 per cent interest in the promising Temora gold project in New South Wales. The deal raises the value of the new company's assets to A\$23.5m, or 70 cents per share compared with 60 cents under the original proposals.

Selstrust holders who prefer to accept the alternative of a cash offer from their shares from BP will be given 60 cents (about 40p) per share instead of the previous offer of 54 cents.

Kenneth Marston

No private investor should be without it.

Before making your investment decision, we believe you need proper information.

That's why we strongly recommend the 1984 Annual Report of The Scottish American Investment Company.

Inside, you'll find full details of our wide range of portfolios, an account of our company's history and, perhaps the most interesting reading for all private investors, our performance.

For instance, in 1984 our recommended dividend has increased by over 15%. Longer term, our asset value has risen by 150% over the last five years.

All you have to do to receive a copy of the report is fill in the coupon and return it to us. We think you'll find it absorbing reading.

Stewart Fund Managers Ltd
45 Charlotte Square Edinburgh EH2 4HW
Tel: 031-226 3271 Telex: SFMLTD G

Please send me a copy of The Scottish American Investment Company Annual Report.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

هكتا من الثمن



"... the laurels for top-performing trust group ... go to Baillie Gifford & Co."

The Sunday Times, 20th January 1985

Baillie Gifford & Co. is an Edinburgh-based firm founded in 1908 whose only activity is investment management. It has a long record of successful portfolio management overseas as well as in the U.K. The firm's personnel include 20 investment professionals divided into specialist teams covering all major markets. Funds under management exceed £950 million.

Investment Trusts under management:	Total Return* Year to 31st Dec. 1984
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust	+40%
Smaller Japanese companies	
Mid Wynd International Investment Trust	+27%
Small overseas growth companies	
Scottish Mortgage & Trust	+25%
Balanced growth of income and capital	
Monks Investment Trust	+21%
Capital growth	
Winterbottom Energy Trust	+20%
Oil and energy-related investments	
Baillie Gifford Technology	Launched April 1984
High technology companies	
Average investment trust	+20%

(* Capital growth of assets plus re-invested dividends per Association of Investment Trust Companies statistics)

Other services:

BG Unit Trusts
Pension Fund
Exempt Funds† (for pension funds and charities)
Personal Pensions

Baillie, Gifford & Co.
3 Glenfinlas Street, Edinburgh EH3 6YY
Telephone 031 225 2581

† Japan, International and U.K.

To: Peter Murray, Baillie Gifford & Co., 3 Glenfinlas Street, Edinburgh EH3 6YY
Please send me details of the following:

Scottish Mortgage & Trust ☐ Mid Wynd International ☐
Monks Investment Trust ☐ Baillie Gifford Japan ☐
Winterbottom Energy Trust ☐ Technology ☐
BG Unit Trusts ☐ Exempt Funds ☐
Pension Fund Investment ☐ Personal Pensions ☐

Name _____

Address _____

FT

YOUR SAVING AND INVESTMENTS

Beware of keen unit trust brokers

Clive Wolman sounds a cautionary note on advisory services

AFTER SO many new launches over the last year, the small investor has a wider choice of unit trusts than he does among the 739 UK companies which feature in the FT-Actuaries All Share Index.

The diversity of funds may be a trying experience for those investing in the stock market via a professionally managed fund which spreads risk. It may be as difficult to decide between the Schroder Singapore and Malaysia trust and the Waverley Australian Gold trust as it between Marks & Spencer and ICL.

To guide investors over the last four years several unit trust advisory services and brokers have sprung up. They decide on the best unit trusts for their clients' money according to the clients' wealth, tax position, attitude to risk and what they believe to be the investment prospects for different world stock markets. They can also use their bargaining strength to buy into unit trusts at a discount or when the bid-offer spreads are most favourable.

By taking the strategic decisions themselves, the unit trust brokers generate additional commission which they pocket every time they switch their clients' money between different funds. The choice of funds also allows them to demonstrate to their clients how active they have been on their behalf. They can thus justify their own management charges which are superimposed on the unit trust managers' charges and come typically to between 0.25 and 0.5 per cent per year of the assets under their management.

Can these advisory services

CAPITAL GROWTH PORTFOLIOS —£10,000 INITIAL INVESTMENT			
Portfolio value at year end 1984	% change over one-year period to Dec. 1984	Jan. 1982 Original portfolio unchanged	Jan. 1982
Berry Asset Management	+1.7	17,198	17,198
Unit Trust Selection Service	+15.3	16,096	16,096
Colham	+12.7	16,251	16,251
Edenhill Securities	+10.2	13,112	13,112
Hargreaves Lansdown	+9.0	17,471	17,471
Hoare Govett UTAS	+9.6	16,947	16,947
Investment Selection & Mgmt.	+13.8	14,429	14,429
Premier Unit Trust Brokers	+12.3	14,525	14,525
Richards Longstaff UTPM	+11.5	17,344	17,344
Spry Unit Trust Management	+7.2	15,333	15,333
Towerhill Securities	-0.9	11,968	11,968
Fraser Henderson	-7.2	9,636	9,636
Hill Samuel	+19.4	14,681	14,681
Tonche Remnant	+12.5	11,236	11,236
Whitechurch Securities	+36.0	11,907	11,907

FT Actuaries All Share 19,220 +28.9 —
Planned Savings Unit Trust 19,559 +17.7 —
Capital International World 20,882 +23.5 —
Portfolio commenced: * July 1982; † January 1983; ‡ July 1983; § January 1984. † Indices have been adjusted for dealing costs. [Capel-Cure Myers, Capital International Index takes account of currency movements.]

Source: Planned Savings.

justify their existence by achieving higher returns, after deducting charges, than would the investor by going to unit trusts directly?

Planned Savings, a monthly magazine for financial advisers, seeks to answer this question in a survey of the investment performance of 15 unit trust advisers and brokers over the past three years.

Its simple conclusion is that you should not touch a unit trust broker with a barge-pole. Of the 12 monitored over the full three-year period to December 1984, only two could claim to have added rather than

lost value for their clients. These were two Bristol-based services: Richards Longstaff Unit Trust Portfolio Managers, and Premier Unit Trust Brokers.

Planned Savings provides three benchmarks against which to judge the investment performance of the managers. One is the FT-Actuaries All-Share Index. This indicates the average returns that an investor in UK shares would have achieved over the period (excluding his dealing costs). Second, the Capital International World Index, translated into sterling, indicates the

average return achievable from a world-wide portfolio of shares. The third benchmark, the Planned Savings Unit Trust Index, indicates the average return from investing in UK unit trusts. If your only concern is whether you should go directly to a unit trust rather than through a broker, the Unit Trust Index is probably the most useful benchmark.

Only the two Bristol services beat any of the three benchmarks over the three-year period. Neither was able to show much consistency by keeping ahead in all three years. Richards Longstaff, which achieved spectacular performance allowing gains of over 50 per cent in 1982 and 1983, lagged behind most of the field in 1984.

Last year proved an embarrassment both for unit trust brokers and managers. Only one broker, Keen Seager of Whitechurch Securities, turned in a performance ahead of the Unit Trust Index, which itself was way behind the other two benchmarks. Seager's success was due above all to his selection of two Royal London unit trusts, American Growth and Special Situations.

Most unit trust brokers, 14 out of 15, achieved a higher total return on their income unit trust portfolios than on their capital growth portfolios, the result of the strong increases in dividend payments by UK companies over the last two years and the successful restructuring of many high-yielding companies in the recession.

Top of the charts in the income section is another Bristol advisory service, Hargreaves Lansdown. The Unit Trust Selection Service run by London stockbrokers Capel-Cure Myers is in second place.

The virtue of non-specialisation

George Graham talks to MLA fund manager Brian Stuart

BRIAN STUART wishes he had invested in the unit trust he manages. He could have bought MLA Units for 21 pence each soon after the fund was launched in 1976. Now they cost 288p each.

Over the last seven years MLA's performance has comfortably outstripped that of any other unit trust. It also heads the league tables for UK trusts over the three and five year periods.

Stuart and Andrew Maclean — now deputy group general manager of MLA's parent, Municipal Mutual Insurance — have presided together over this growth. The fund for years remained tiny in proportion to Municipal's general insurance funds. But with more active marketing in the last two or three years it has expanded to over £22m.

It hasn't been easy all the time, says Stuart, continually glancing at share prices moving across a television screen in the corner of the room.

"People talk about a continuous bull market. But actually, living through it, it never seemed quite like that," he says.

What the MLA team — in common with many other investment managers — has traditionally tried to do is to gauge the course of the economic cycle. Since different types of business will tend to benefit most at different stages of the overall cycle, the aim is to pick companies in a sector that is about to cash in on a recovery.

In past years, Stuart has moved 30 per cent of the fund into oil company shares to take advantage of a boom in that

sector — and moved out again soon, avoiding the subsequent declines in oil share prices. Since 1982, however, the stock market has rotated through the sectors once, Stuart says, and people are wondering where to go next.

Because the MLA fund does not restrict itself to UK investments, the managers also have to take a view on the cycles in stock markets around the world.

Stuart points out that he has to take a longer term view because of the expenses involved in short-term trading.

If he is very gloomy about stock market prospects, he says, it is expensive to pull money out of shares and put it on deposit at a bank. Selling the shares and buying them back again when he is more confident will cost 6 to 9 per cent of their value in dealing charges alone.

Stuart is often looking for special opportunities with much longer term prospects. One such was Polly Peck. Stuart bought the shares because he liked Polly Peck's record of earnings growth, though other investors were still sceptical about whether anything concrete lay behind the figures. He expected the investment to take three or four years to pay off.

In fact, it was only eighteen months before the price started to soar. Stuart bought at about £3 a share, and added a few more at £6.30. He began to sell

when the price reached £20. He didn't manage to sell the whole of the stake at the top of the market, but he had got rid of it all within four weeks of the price hitting its peak of over £25.

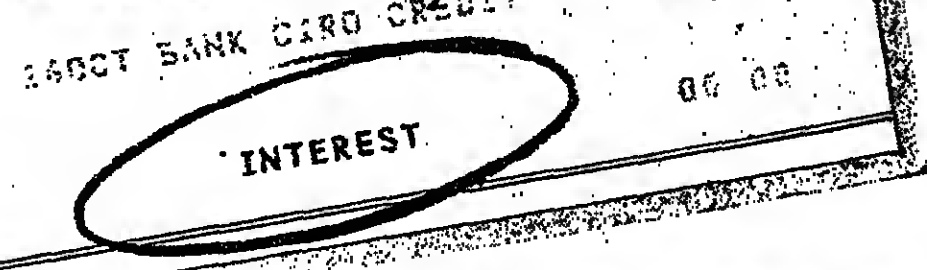
Stuart is keen to dispel the notion that the MLA fund concentrates on this kind of speculative, high-flying share. He never held Bio-Isolates or London and Liverpool, he says, referring to two more recent wonder stocks.

As a general trust, MLA cannot expect to outperform the best specialist fund in any one year, Stuart says. But in the next year, when that particular market may have taken a turn for the worse, he hopes to leave the specialist behind.



Brian Stuart

Today your bank earns interest on your current account.



Cheque Plus now brings you the opportunity to earn that interest for yourself.

Cheque Plus is designed to help you earn interest on money that is sitting idle in your current account.

It gives you —

- Daily interest on every £ up to 13.75% p.a.*

- Plus ● Full cheque book accessibility
- Plus ● No cheque charges
- Plus ● Free standing orders
- Plus ● No minimum opening balance needed
- Plus ● The satisfaction of being a customer of Citibank Savings, who are part of Citibank N.A., the world's largest bank.

For full details and an application form send off the freepost coupon today.

* Equivalent to 14.48% annually compounded rate correct at time of going to press.

Interest will be paid net of basic rate tax from 6th April, 1985.

Please send me details of how Cheque Plus will benefit me.

Name _____ Mr/Mrs/Miss

(Please print) Address _____

(Please print) Post Code _____

Telephone No. _____

Occupation _____

Limited to persons over 18, in England, Scotland and Wales.

Send to: Geoffrey Ellis, Citibank Savings, FREEPOST, London W6 0BR.

Tel: (01) 748 9251 (24 Hour Service)

Citibank Savings

SAVINGS · LOANS · MORTGAGES

Citibank Savings is the trading name of Citibank Trust Limited. Reg'd Office 336 Strand W.C2. Reg'd in England No. 853179.

INCOME TAX RELIEF 1984/1985

Grosvenor Terrace Developments PLC

Offer for Subscription under the Business Expansion Scheme

of up to £2,000,000

Sponsored by

CHANCERY SECURITIES PLC

20 John Street, London WC1N 2DL

telephone: 01-242 2563

The Company offers:

- ★ An alternative to London residential conversion
- ★ Development expertise
- ★ Contracts conditionally exchanged on a specific site
- ★ No excessive management rewards

This advertisement does not constitute an offer to subscribe for shares

Please send me a copy of the Prospectus.

Name _____

Address _____

FT 22

Also available from Alexander Stevens Druce, 16 Waterloo Street, Birmingham B2.

Initial allotments will be made on or before 6.00 p.m. on Monday 18th March 1985.

DOES YOUR BROKER KEEP YOU IN TOUCH?

Our private clients receive a regular bulletin. The March issue includes articles on:

- The Economy
- U.K. Gilts and Equities
- Overseas Markets
- Personal Year End Tax Planning
- Minimising Capital Gains Tax

If you would like a copy, contact: J.O. Clarke, Simon & Coates, 1 London Wall Buildings, London EC2M 5PT.

01-588 3644



SIMON & COATES
Members of the Stock Exchange.

Business Expansion Scheme

This advertisement is not an invitation or offer to subscribe for or purchase shares; subscription may be made only on the basis of the prospectus containing full details of the offer and of the Company.

Historic City Developments plc

(Incorporated in England and Wales, No. 1485 to 1981)

Offer for Subscription

under the terms of the Business Expansion Scheme

of up to 3,000,000 Ordinary shares of 25p each at 51p per share

payable in full on application

sponsored by

Hill Samuel & Co. Limited

The purpose of the issue is to raise funds to enable Historic City Developments plc to commence trading and provide individuals with the opportunity of investing in a property development business which will be managed by an experienced team.

Copies of the Prospectus and Application Form can be obtained from any of the Hill Samuel offices below OR by sending in the completed coupon OR by telephoning 01-588 5111 (24-hour answering service).

In London:

100 Wood Street, London EC2P 2AJ

19 St. James Square, London SW1Y 4JQ

33 Wigmore Street, London W1H 0AD

Outside London:

15 Chancery Lane, London EC2M 4LQ

71 New Street, Birmingham B2 4DU

23 St. Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2DT

7 Booth Street, Manchester M2 4AE

Please send me a copy of the prospectus of Historic City Developments plc

Name _____

Telephone No. _____

Address _____

YOUR SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

More private investors check out traded options

THE BRITISH TELECOM flotation last December gave the traded options market the break it had been looking for after six frustrating years.

Turnover in the options exchange leaped nearly threefold to 26,854 contracts when trading in the BT options began on December 4—the day after dealings in the underlying shares had begun on the Stock Market. The previous turnover record on the options market had been 10,160 contracts.

"BT has been phenomenal," says Tony Whalley, traded options specialist at stock-

brokers Scrimgeour, Kemp-Clee. "BT triggered off a whole new lot of clients," echoes Gillian Nathan of Vickers de Costa.

On that first heady day of trading BT accounted for no less than 87 per cent of total option business. Its share has fallen back but the spin-off of interest from BT to other stocks has produced volumes which the Stock Exchange hopes will prove permanent.

A stock index option, based on the FT-SE 100 Stock Index was introduced last May. This allows individuals to hedge the

risk on their portfolios or take a view on the future development of the stock market as a whole.

In January a short gilt option was added, based on the 10 per cent Exchequer 1989 gilt stock. Tax restraints on individuals

and institutions have gradually been removed. Last May the Inland Revenue ruled that individuals face capital gains tax rather than income tax on any profits on FT-SE 100 Stock Index contracts.

Institutions still dominate the

Charles Batchelor explains how the BT flotation has boosted the trade options market out of a six-year gloom... and Clive Wolman advises Telecom shareholders whether or not to sell

traded options market—as they do the equities market. But the influx of more private investors has led to a healthier balance between buyers of options (usually individual investors) and the sellers (usually the institutions). This increase in buying demand has, however, had the effect of pushing up option prices. And until there is an increase in the number of professional market makers and an increase in competition between them, the spread between buy and sell prices is likely to remain fairly wide.

Most importantly, the options market has achieved a critical

mass. Enough options are now quoted to guarantee at least half a dozen volatile options at any time.

The Commercial Union option slumbered for several years before bid speculation led to volatile share price movements and attractive option possibilities in 1983 and 1984. Jaguar, Royal, ICI and Imperial Tobacco Group have all provided speculative opportunities in recent months.

Even if interest in BT wanes in the months ahead, the traded options market appears to have finally established itself.

C.B.

Make Buzby happy—don't hang up on him

FOR THE hundreds of thousands of British Telecom shareholders, this has been a worrying week. The BT share price, after reaching a peak of 134p last month, fell back below 120p.

For those who have a relatively high proportion of their assets tied up in BT and possibly own no other UK company shares, the advice you would normally receive would be to take your profits now by selling the shares.

But the Government is prepared to offer further incentives to those who hold onto BT shares longer. If you were originally allocated at least 400 shares and can keep them until June 24, after paying the second call of 30p per share, you may be entitled to two £18 vouchers which can be used to reduce your next two telephone bills.

If you were allocated 800 shares you could receive a further two vouchers in December. If you elected to receive the bonus shares, you will have to wait until January 1988 before being granted one extra share for every 10 you were allocated originally.

The two vouchers due in June are certainly worth waiting for, at least if you have to pay BT telephone bills. Assuming that the BT share price four months hence will be the same as now, say 120p, the perk of two vouchers in June represents

a tax-free return of about 24 per cent (on an annualised basis) from holding only 400 shares.

But if you're worried that the share price may fall further, you have a further possibility. You can use BT traded options to hedge the risks of a fall. The simple principle is that you deal in options to ensure that, whatever money you lose from a fall in the BT share price, you make the same amount from the options.

To achieve this, you would need to sell for "write" call options on all the shares you wish to hedge—and use the money, or part of the money, to buy put options on the same number of shares.

By writing 120p call options on, say, 400 of your BT shares from the August series (see page 27) you give someone the right to buy from you 400 BT shares at a price of 120p some time before the expiry date in August. (An adjustment will be made if you have already paid the second call on June 24, before selling your shares.) On yesterday morning's stock market prices, you will earn 12p on each 120p call option you sell. Thus, provided the BT share price does not fall more than 12p by the time you sell, you will still be ahead.

But if you think there is a risk that the share price could fall further than 12p, you can take a further precaution. This

involves buying 120p put options from the same August series. Yesterday morning you would have paid a price of only about 9p per option. For this purpose you can use the money you take from selling the calls, and still be ahead by 3p per option minus the deal-time expenses.

The put options will allow you to sell your shares at a guaranteed price of 120p at any time between now and August, regardless of the price of BT shares in the stock market.

In practice, when you decide to sell your underlying shares, you will not have to sell them direct to the writer of your put options. Instead, you just sell your shares in the normal way through the stock market by dealing with a stockbroker and also sell your August put options through the market. If the BT share price by then has fallen sharply, your put options will be very valuable. In fact your profits from the options should more or less match your losses from holding on to the shares rather than selling them now.

If, however, the BT share price has risen sharply to above 120p by the time you sell your shares, your put options will be worthless, or almost worthless. In addition you now face the risk that the call options you wrote will be exercised against you at a price of only 120p. This

would require you to buy more BT shares, possibly at a price well above 120p, and sell them on to the holder of the call options for only 120p. To remove this risk, you must buy back the call options you wrote through a stockbroker at the same time as you sell your underlying shares. The cost of buying the options would then wipe out, or nearly wipe out, your additional profit from holding on to BT shares.

The strategy of writing call options and buying an equal number of put options can provide you with a near-perfect hedge against share price fluctuations. There are, however, other strategies you can follow.

For example, you could just buy the put options without selling the calls. Thus, you could be protected against a fall in the BT share price but you would still benefit from a strong rise. The only cost of this strategy is that of buying the put option, which is rather like paying an insurance premium.

Alternatively, if you think that the share price is not likely to move far in either direction between now and the time you intend to sell, you could write call options on your shares. This represents the mirror image of buying a put.

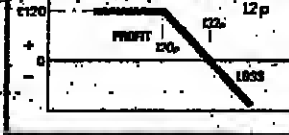
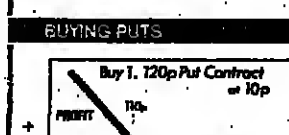
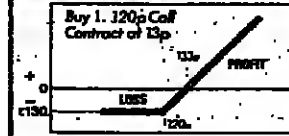
Playing the options market can also be useful in year-end tax-planning. For example, supposing you hold shares in a company which are showing substantial capital gains. If you sell the shares this tax year, before April 5, you may have to pay capital gains tax at a rate of 30 per cent, because you have already used up your annual £3,600 exemption from CGT. So you could delay your sale until the next tax year. But if you are worried about a fall in the share price, and options are traded on the shares, you could write calls and buy puts as suggested above for BT shares.

Another advantage could be that if your share price rises further, your options will be showing a capital loss. If you buy back the call options or sell the puts before April 5, you will crystallise a capital loss which can be offset against your other capital gains. You could then realise the capital gains on your underlying shares by selling in the next tax year, from as early as April 6. At the very least, this will allow you to defer handing over tax to the Inland Revenue for another 12 months. At best, you may avoid tax completely by using your annual exemption from CGT for the tax year 1985-86.

C.W.

THE RISKS AND REWARDS OF TRADED OPTIONS ON BRITISH TELECOM

(August contracts at expiry)



IT IS REGARDED as one of the stock market's most esoteric sectors. But the market in warrants to buy shares in 20 investment trusts is one of the few sections of the stock market where the little man has the field more or less to himself. The principles of investment are the same as those for traded options.

This is a small sector—exercise of all the warrants now issued would only result in the issue of some £100m of shares. The big institutions, therefore, have little interest in trading warrants, which means that private investors can sometimes find under-priced bargains.

As in the options market, the risk is that your entire investment can be lost if you neither sell nor exercise the warrants. If the share price were to be below the exercise price of a warrant, the warrant would expire worthless.

However, there are profits to be made from trading the warrants themselves. If the trust's share price rises, the price of the warrant is likely to rise proportionately more. And there are substantial profits to be

Warrant bargains

made if the share price rises well above the exercise price of the warrants. If you have funds available to buy the underlying shares.

Warrants provide the right (but no obligation) to buy an ordinary share in a specific trust at a fixed price. They may be exercised only on certain dates.

Warrant holders have no rights other than the ability to buy the shares. They have no votes, confer no automatic right to receive an offer if the trust is bid for, and will earn you no dividends. For higher rate taxpayers, the fact that all the returns they offer come in the form of capital gains can be an advantage.

The value of a warrant can be assessed by adding its current price to its exercise price, and comparing the result with the current ordinary share price.

The sum will almost always be greater than the existing share price. Basically, the most attractive warrants will be those which have the smallest premium, and at the same time have the longest time to go before the warrants expire.

Hambros Investment Trust, for example, has warrants exercisable at 175p each year on July 31 from this year to 1994. The warrant price was at 31p this week, making a total of 206p, compared with the ordinary share price of 161p.

Clearly, the warrant price takes into account expectations that the trust's share price will rise over the next few years. But the real value of warrants can be seen in the recent movement of the prices. The share price has risen 20 per cent in recent months, but the warrant price has risen nearly 50 per cent.

This "gearing" effect also works in reverse, magnifying losses if the trust's share price falls.

Alexander Nicoll

School fee payments

portfolio of stocks and shares. Under this scheme the parent establishes a flexible educational fund, financed by NatWest for up to 70 per cent of the total value of the house (less existing mortgages) or other securities, subject to a maximum of 2½ times either parents' income.

Thus, if the parent's house is worth £80,000 and there is a £25,000 mortgage outstanding, the maximum educational fund is 70 per cent of £55,000 less £25,000, that is £13,750.

Parents can draw on this fund over a five-year period—the normal fee-paying period for senior pupil education. Interest is 10½ per cent—2½ per cent above NatWest base rate.

Repayment is by a low cost endowment from a selected panel of four life companies over any period between 10 and

25 years, subject to payment by age 65.

ISIS accepts this, and its literature emphasises that the scheme is no substitute for proper advance financial planning for fees.

An example in the literature on the scheme highlights the cost of the scheme. A parent borrowing £12,800 could pay a cumulative amount of more than £48,000 in 18 years at a current annual percentage rate of 18 per cent.

Even if the parent did no planning ahead, there is no reason why he should not shop around for a loan and the Isis/NatWest scheme does not appear to be the best in the market. Many school fee specialists have their own loan arrangements which could sometimes offer a better return or a lower financial burden.

Details of these specialists and of the new loan scheme can be obtained from Independent School Information Service, 56 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AT.

Eric Short

A PROPERTY INVESTMENT WITH TAX RELIEF

This advertisement is not an invitation to subscribe for shares

Palmerston Property Developments plc.

OFFER FOR SUBSCRIPTION UNDER THE TERMS OF THE BUSINESS EXPANSION SCHEME of up to 8,000,000 shares of £1 each.

- * A new property development company, to operate in the commercial, industrial and retail sectors.
- * A Board of highly experienced professionals.
- * Tax relief for qualifying investors in the 1984/85 tax year.
- * Minimum investment only £1,000.

Applications will be accepted only on the basis of the information in the prospectus, which may be obtained from the sponsors of the Issue:

Lancashire & Yorkshire Investment Management Limited, 73 Wimpole Street, London W1M 7DD. Tel: 01-935 5566.

Member of the National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Subscriptions open on 4th March 1985—and the Offer may be closed at any time. Lancashire & Yorkshire's offices will be open for personal and telephone calls during normal business hours, and from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays, until the Offer is closed.

BUSINESS EXPANSION SCHEME

CENTRAL LONDON DEVELOPMENTS PLC

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY IN CENTRAL LONDON

An Offer for Subscription of up to 3,800,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each at par payable in full on application.

Sponsored by Choularton Finance Limited (Member of NASDIM), 1, Telegraph Street, London, EC2R 7AP. Tel: 01-628 6225

An over-the-counter market will be created in the Company's shares. ACT BEFORE BUDGET DAY—TUESDAY 19th MARCH, 1985

Considerable tax advantages should be available to qualifying individuals. This advertisement does not constitute an offer or invitation to subscribe for shares.

Please send, without obligation, a copy of the Prospectus.

Name _____

Address _____

Tel. _____ FT 3

Kleinwort Benson

With effect from 1st March 1985 the Kleinwort, Benson Limited mortgage rate will be 14.5% per annum

Equity & Law Multipension
the pension you can...

BUSINESS EXPANSION SCHEME

PRINCETON PROPERTIES PLC
Offer for Subscription under the Terms of the Business Expansion Scheme of up to 7,500,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each payable in full on application.

Introduced by **Houston Financial Services Limited**
(Licensed Deposit Takers)

The Company's business is the purchase, development, refurbishment and resale of residential property in London and the Home Counties. Advantages in the investment include:

- * An asset backed investment
- * An experienced management team
- * Development policy aimed at minimum return of 25% on each project.
- * Tax relief to qualifying individuals under the BES

Copies of the prospectus, upon the terms of which alone application may be made, are available from:

Houston Financial Services Ltd or Princeton Properties PLC
01-628 4011 or 01-930 6472

Offer closes 3pm on 18th March 1985
This advertisement does not constitute an invitation to subscribe for shares.

(Minimum subscription £1,000)

To: Houston Financial Services Ltd, 10 King William Street, London EC4N 7DH

Please send a copy of the prospectus for Princeton Properties PLC to:

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ BT 23

and a further copy to my professional adviser:

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Up to 2% commission will be paid in financial intermediaries on successful applications.

Equity & Law

...take from job to job without losing your benefits.

For more information see your financial adviser or contact our Marketing Information Services on 0494 33372

Equity & Law Life Assurance Society plc, Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5AL

مركز الاستثمار

NEW HIGH RATES 1.75% EXTRA GUARANTEED FOR 3 YEARS FROM NATIONWIDE

Nationwide's new higher interest rates make Capital Bands an even better buy. The new rate of interest is 9.25% and for real capital growth you can leave the interest, which is credited every 6 months, to go on earning interest itself at the Capital Band rate, resulting in 9.46%, equivalent to 13.51% to basic rate income tax payers.

Guaranteed Extra Interest The interest rate on Nationwide Capital Bands includes 1.75% extra interest above the variable Shore Account rate. This extra interest is guaranteed—even when interest rates go down again.

Monthly Income You can choose to have your interest as monthly income if you wish. You will get £38.54 for every £5,000 you invest.

Immediate withdrawals You may withdraw without notice, and lose 90 days' interest on the sum withdrawn. Or give 90 days' notice and lose nothing. Invest in a Nationwide Capital Band now—from £500—and get the certainty of high and guaranteed extra interest. At any Nationwide branch or agent. Or write to Nationwide, FREEPOST, London WC1V 6XA.

**It pays to decide
Nationwide**

INCOME TAX RELIEF 1984/85

This advertisement is not an invitation to subscribe for or to purchase any securities.

LIMEHILL PLC

Property Development

Offer for Subscription under the
Business Expansion Scheme of up to
£2,000,000

by
PACMAN FUND MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Licensed Dealers in Securities

Limehill PLC is a new company which will be involved in the purchase, construction, development, management and sale of property mainly in Southern England but concentrated on the London Dockland area.

Investors, who comply with the statutory requirements, should reap the benefit of BES relief on the subscription price of their shares.

The Subscription List opened at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 27th February, 1985 and will be closed not later than 5 p.m. on 29th March, 1985 or earlier if the offer is fully subscribed. If the minimum subscription is received by 15th March 1985 the shares in the Company for which valid applications have been received will be allotted and issued at that time.

Telephone 01-580 4036 (24 hr service) for a copy of the prospectus or complete the coupon below.

To: Pacman Fund Management Limited,
24 Weymouth Street, London, W1N 3FA.

Please send me a copy of the Prospectus for Limehill PLC.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

FT285

YOUR SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

Tax gains from capital losses

David Cohen shows
how poor investments
can reduce your
CGT liability

THE RECENT announcement by Acorn Computers of its last-ditch deal with Olivetti is particularly disappointing news for investors who have held Acorn shares since its USM launch in October 1983. When dealings resume after their suspension shares are expected to change hands at well below 20p compared with the original issue price of £1.20.

The steep decline highlights the potential importance for higher-rate taxpayers to be allowed to claim income tax relief on USM losses and the need to read the small print of prospectuses. For original shareholders in Acorn are likely to be deprived of this relief by a technicality.

Losses on share transactions can generally only be used to reduce capital gains tax liability. So the maximum tax savings will be 30 per cent of the amount of the loss. But the Finance Act 1980 provides for one case in which a taxpayer can opt to set a capital loss against income rather than gains, thereby reducing his income tax bill at his marginal rate of up to 60 per cent. This special relief is available only where the shares on which the loss has been incurred are not quoted on the Stock Exchange.

Shares dealt in on the USM are treated as "unquoted"—hence Acorn would qualify. There is a further condition. The investor must have acquired his shares from the company

itself rather than from a third party.

The snag with Acorn is the way in which the offer for sale was structured. All the new shares were subscribed for by its merchant bankers, Lazard Brothers, and then sold on to the public by Lazard. This means that investors were technically buying shares from Lazard rather than from Acorn itself. On a strict interpretation the relief is not available—and that is apparently the view of the Inland Revenue.

As in a normal CGT case, the shares must either have been sold or else declared of negligible value (see below). A claim for relief must be made within 2 years of the tax year in which the loss arises. After that the loss will be available only for offsetting against a capital gains tax bill.

Even if your losses are not within this privileged category you may still be able to put them to good use. With the end of the tax year approaching on April 5, it is a mistake to think that capital gains tax planning consists of just cashing in enough profits to cover your £5,600 annual exemption. Effective exploitation of losses can be just as important.

The first stage in calculating CGT liability is to deduct the taxpayer's realised gains. Then, if the net gain after inflation adjustment is more than the annual exemption, currently £5,600, tax at a flat rate of 30 per cent is chargeable on the excess.

The important point to note is that losses are deducted first and only afterwards is the annual exemption taken into



"I was hoping my Acorn shares would blossom into an oak-leaf investment..."

account. This means that losses are only useful to the extent that they reduce net gains to £5,600 but not lower.

So further losses should be held back until a tax year in which the taxpayer's gains would otherwise exceed the annual exemption.

Whatever the tax planning considerations, an investor will often be unwilling to cash in a loss, clinging fervently, if unrealistically, to recovery hopes.

A different problem is faced by the hapless investor who has given up hope of deriving anything other than a capital loss from his investment and is

denied even that because he can't sell the shares. This may be because the company has lost its Stock Exchange quote or it may have never been listed. Or there may be a legal obstacle to a sale, such as a restrictive clause in the company's articles of association or the commencement of winding-up proceedings.

If the only problem is lack of a market—and the shareholder's sole aim is to undo his loss—then he may be able to find a relative or friend who will be prepared to take the shares off him.

There is one situation where a taxpayer can claim a tax loss even without having disposed of the loss-producing asset. The Capital Gains Tax Act 1979 provides that if the Inland Revenue accepts that "the value of an asset has become negligible" the owner will be treated as having sold it for a negligible amount and then immediately reacquired it, thereby releasing an allowable loss.

Extel, the statistical and financial services group, publishes a twice yearly updated list of companies whose shares the Revenue has declared to be of negligible value. If you are unlucky enough to hold shares on that list then your claim to have the loss allowed will be automatically accepted.

If, for whatever reason, your dud investment is not listed, you can still put in a claim to your local Inspector of Taxes.

He will need to see detailed evidence of the company's decline before he reaches a decision.

David Cohen is a solicitor in London.

Pension privileges

IT IS now clear that the March 19 Budget will do little or nothing to reduce the tax privileges of saving through pension funds. The opportunities to use these privileges in year-end tax planning have expanded dramatically over the past two years.

Last week's article and decision tree suggested that savings through a pension plan would be a sound investment for almost every taxpayer. Publicity and Government action have opened up many more opportunities for the individual employee and the self-employed to start up and adjust pension contributions.

If you are self-employed or employed but not in an occupational pension scheme, you can contribute a maximum of 17.5 or 20 per cent (depending on age) of relevant earnings each tax year and obtain full tax relief. But if you wish to exceed this limit for 1984-85, you can carry back the relief over the previous six years. The importance of the end of this tax year on April 5 is that, after that date, you will no longer be able to exploit any unused pension contributions relief from the 1978-79 tax year.

The right to carry back relief over six years is the biggest advantage that pension contributions have over the Business Expansion Scheme. This allows full tax relief on an investment in most unquoted companies but involves much higher risks than pension contributions.

The biggest disadvantage of using a pension as a tax efficient method of investment is that

you will probably have to leave your money tied up until you retire. There are, however, a few ways of unlocking some assets before then.

A loan-back through the company which has organised your pension plan is easiest to obtain through an insurance company, if you have used an insured pension plan. This could cover most of your contributions for this year.

The only major constraint is that you cannot use your pension plan as security for the loan—a second mortgage on your home could be attractive, or assignment of an insurance policy. But be careful not to end up paying excessively high rates of interest.

Those in occupational pension schemes have fewer opportunities for borrowing money to allow them to make use of the tax reliefs without reducing normal expenditure. But if you have cash available, most pension schemes allow employees to enhance their pension rights by making Additional Voluntary Contributions.

But note that the Inland Revenue allows employees to contribute a maximum of only 15 per cent of their earnings each year into an occupational scheme.

More seriously, some extra contributions could be wasted if you have invested more in your pension plan than is necessary to fund the maximum permissible pension—normally two-thirds of final salary.

Clive Wolman

TAX RELIEF IN 1984/5

ROMAN HOMES PLC

Offer for Subscription under the
Business Expansion Scheme
Sponsored by
Capital Ventures Limited
(Licensed Dealers in Securities)

Of up to 2,500,000 Ordinary Shares of 20p each at 40p per share, payable in full on application.

Roman Homes PLC will develop sites for the building of retirement homes specifically designed for the elderly.

The main features of the Company are:

- * Assets in property
- * Operating in a rapidly expanding market.
- * The promoters are personally investing £240,000.
- * First site already contracted.

The subscription list is now open and will close not later than 12 noon on 4th April 1985—or earlier if the offer is fully subscribed. Shares will be allotted on 18th March 1985 subject to the minimum subscription being received.

This advertisement does not constitute an invitation to subscribe for shares. For a copy of the full prospectus and application form please complete the coupon or telephone (0242) 584380.

To: Capital Ventures Limited 37 London Road, Chisleham, Glos. GL52 6BA.

Please send me a Prospectus for Roman Homes PLC.

Name _____

Address _____

Business Expansion Scheme

ST. JAMES ESTATES PLC

Offer for Subscription of up to 10,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 25p each at 60p per share.

Payable in full on application on or before March 15th, 1985
Minimum Subscription 1000 Shares

The Company has been incorporated to develop prime residential property in London, and features:

- PROVISIONAL CLEARANCE FOR TAX RELIEF IN 1984/85
- ASSETS IN PROPERTY OR CASH
- DIRECTORS WITH PROVEN TRACK RECORDS
- BOVIS CONSTRUCTION AND KETH CARDALE GROVES AS ADVISERS TO THE COMPANY

Sponsored by

UTC Securities Management Limited

Licensed dealer in securities

55 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DB

Telephone: 01-499 0223

This advertisement does not constitute an offer to subscribe for shares. Applications will only be accepted on the basis of information in the prospectus on the official application form at the back.

Please send me () copies of the prospectus.

Name _____

Telephone No. _____

Address _____

FT 29

London & Edinburgh Trust PLC

Have to offer

TAX EFFICIENT INVESTMENT PROPERTY
with

100% first year allowances against highest rate of tax

in
**SOUTHAMPTON, OXFORD
AND BURGESS HILL, Sussex**

Small runways units for sale

FREEDOM OR LEASEHOLD

with benefits of

* 2 YEAR PUBLIC COMPANY RENTAL GUARANTEE *
* UNDOUBTED LOCATIONS * * EXCELLENT RENTAL GROWTH *
* PROSPECTS * SERVICES OF ESTATE MANAGEMENT *
* RENT COLLECTION *

SEND THIS COUPON OR TELEPHONE

London & Edinburgh Trust PLC

15a Montpelier Street, London SW7 1HQ

Telephone 01-581 3665 Telex 239373 LONEDI

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL NO. _____

PENSIONS: ACT NOW

BEFORE THE BUDGET (on March 19th)

Start a new pension plan NOW—with almost any company you like—
AND SAVE UP TO 27.5% of your first year's contribution.
For details, plus a FREE copy of our PENSIONS FACT-FILE,
contact Investors' Circle, 37 Grand Parade, Brighton, BN2 2QA.
Telephone: (0273) 67336—24 hr answerphone service.

MAKE SURE OF YOUR TAX RELIEF!



This advertisement is not an invitation to subscribe for shares

GREAT GABLE plc

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1948 to 1961—No. 1889632)

Offer for Subscription under the
Business Expansion Scheme

sponsored by

Granville & Co. Limited

(Member of the National Association of Security Dealers & Investment Managers)

of up to 3,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each at 50p per share, payable in full on application to raise a total of up to £1.5 million.

Great Gable plc has an existing property development business which acquires Central London properties for conversion into high-quality flats for immediate resale. The key strengths of the Offer are:

- * an established property development business
- * an experienced and professionally qualified management team
- * a proven approach to the business
- * properties to be reinvested to achieve maximum capital growth
- * qualifying individuals should qualify for income tax relief in this tax year.

The subscription list will close when the offer is fully subscribed but in any event not later than 3.00 p.m. on 14 March 1985 (unless extended prior to that date). Applications will be considered strictly in the order in which they are received.

Copies of the Prospectus with application forms attached, on which basis only applications for shares will be accepted, are available from:

Wendy Pollock, Granville & Co. Limited.

27-28 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF

RESIDENT ABROAD

Resident Abroad,
published by
Financial Times Business
Information,
is Britain's monthly
magazine for people
living or working
overseas.

It informs and advises on all aspects of finance and business, with articles on UK and foreign investment, property, pensions, taxation and insurance. It entertains and informs on matters of health, education, travel and leisure—all of this every month.

Tens of thousands of expatriates around the world already benefit from this magazine—ask yourself if you can afford not to join them.

For subscription details
and a free copy of the
latest issue contact:

Janice Liversidge
on 01-405 6969 or
telex 883694 ICLDN G

WE CAN MAKE YOUR MONEY MAKE MORE MONEY

At this time of change in the Financial Markets, this could be an appropriate opportunity for you to review your own financial strategy. James Finlay Investment Management provides independent investment advice for individuals, pension funds and unit trust holders. If you are interested in this independent service, either contact Paddy Thompson on 041-204 1321 or fill in the coupon below.



James Finlay Investment Management Limited

To: Mr. J. F. Thompson, James Finlay Investment Management Limited, 10/14 West Nile Street, Glasgow G1 2PP.

I would like further details of (tick box) ☐ Personal Investments ☐ Pension Fund Management ☐ Unit Trust Management

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

FT 2

هكذا من العمل

YOUR SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

Gilts tax loophole blocked

Those paying the most will be hit hardest, reports Clive Wolman

HIGHER RATE taxpayers seeking the best after-tax returns on their savings had their options cut on Thursday when the Inland Revenue cracked on a widespread form of tax avoidance involving Government gilt-edged securities.

Investors in low-yielding gilt unit trusts such as the Abbey Capital Reserve trust will be affected. Their methods of converting income into lightly taxed capital gains, by selling gilts before the dividend is due, are the specific target of the new rules.

The basic rate taxpayers who invested substantial sums in one of the dividend stripping gilt or local authority bond schemes managed by Barlow Clowes or Pointon York, will also find such investments less profitable.

By the greatest immediate

damage will be suffered by those who invested directly in the short-dated gilt market for specific purposes.

If you wished to tie up your money for less than six months, the most attractive option was to buy short-dated gilts on which a dividend had recently been paid. You could then sell it within six months, before the next dividend was due.

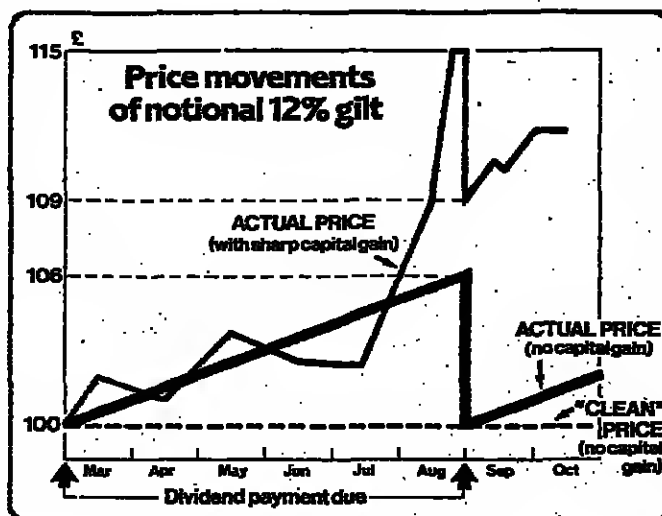
By then, the price of the gilt should have risen above your purchase price in anticipation of the dividend payment. But by taking the return in the form of capital gains rather than income, you could avoid paying income tax at your top marginal rate. Gains might have been subject to capital gains tax (CGT) at 30 per cent, but only if you had used up your annual exemption from CGT on gains valued, in 1984-85, at more than £3,600.

If you were worried about paying CGT, you had the alternative of holding onto the stock for more than 12 months, if

possible for nearly 18 months. You would then have to pay income on the two half-yearly dividends you received, but your capital gains would be tax free.

From now on, the taxman may impose income tax only on your dividends but also on the accruing interest on your gilts as the dividend date approaches. The amount of interest that has accrued by the date you sell will be calculated according to the formula used by the Stock Exchange for short-dated gilts. If you achieve genuine capital gains on your gilt holdings because of a cut in interest rates, that element of your returns will remain subject to the favourable CGT treatment.

Also, small investors with gilt holdings whose nominal value is less than £5,000 will be exempted from the new rules. There is a further concession. The new rules will become fully operational February 28, 1985. Transitional arrangements for the next 12 months should provide comfort for many private investors.



Your tax inspector will have the right to tax any accrued interest on your gilt and other bond holdings over the next 12 months. He can ask to see details of transactions to check if you have converted income into capital gains—what he calls "bond washing."

There are two ways of claiming exemption. You will not be taxed on accrued income over the next year if the value of the accrued income is less than 110 per cent of your dividend income from the same holdings. You can also claim exemption if the difference between this year's accrued and dividend income is no greater than it has been for the last three years.

So if you have been bond washing regularly for the last few years, you will be able to continue doing so for another 12 months.

But immediate action is required if you have not been a regular tax-avoider, and have recently invested money in a high coupon gilt. For example, you may have bought the Treasury 8½ per cent Conversion 1985 gilt intending to sell by July 29. In that case, you should sell your stock as soon as possible, and possibly reinvest your money in a low-coupon gilt.

The price of high coupon gilts fell back sharply when the news of the tax change was announced. Since then the price has partially recovered, so you should not suffer much of a loss by selling now.

Low coupon and index-linked stocks from now on should always offer better post-tax returns regardless of when they are bought, at least to all higher rate taxpayers. They will usually offer better value to basic rate taxpayers too.

Holders of low coupon and index-linked gilts, however, benefited from the rise over the past two days, as a result of the tax change. So too have those unit trusts, such as the Britannia Growth Gilt fund, which invested in low coupon gilts.

But gilt unit trusts such as the Abbey Capital Reserve fund, which relied on selling high coupon gilts before their dividend dates, will find their style cramped at least from next February.

The difficulties will be even greater for the Barlow Clowes and Pointon York schemes which relied on systematically selling bonds with accrued income so that no dividends were ever received. But they should be able to continue operating on the same basis until next February.

Get a loan—and a pension

BRITAIN'S third largest building society, the £8.7bn Nationwide Building Society, chalked up another first by plunging wholeheartedly into the self-employed pensions market.

A few other societies have made funds available to life companies to add to their investment range for policy holders. But with its Pension-Save, Nationwide is handling the whole operation.

Under current legislation, only life companies can underwrite pension contracts, so Nationwide has linked up with Abbey Life assurance and used its expertise in designing the plan approved.

Marketing and investment will be handled entirely by Nationwide. The plan will be sold only through Nationwide's 520 branches and the society will train counter staff to handle inquiries. Abbey Life's agents will not be allowed to market the plan.

Contributions will be collected by Nationwide and passed over to Abbey Life which will invest them back in a special Pension-Save fund run by Nationwide.

The central feature of the scheme is that it offers inflation-proofed investment to the saver up to retirement. The fund guarantees that the accumulated value of the contributions will

rise each month in line with the Retail Price Index and interest will be added each year to the accumulated value at 3½ per cent.

Such index-linked funds are still rare, and life companies marketing them have not had much success. But Nationwide should be able to do better. The society's employees can continue the inflation-proofing in retirement by using the accumulated fund to buy an index-linked annuity from Abbey Life or any other life company marketing such annuities.

For investors who want a guaranteed return on their savings that matches inflation, with something over, then this plan will attract them.

This leads on to the second feature—marketing by Nationwide staff.

Tim McVillie-Ross has been an innovator since joining Nationwide. This is his first major initiative since taking over as chief general manager earlier this month. He intends that at least one person in each branch should be trained to advise and market the pension plans.

Pensions advice to the self-employed comes in two stages: ● Advising how much the individual should be contributing to ensure an adequate pension, and how much can be paid from

earnings to come within Inland Revenue limits. This means liaising with the investor's accountant.

● Deciding where to invest the contributions. But all too often, advisers concentrate on the second stage and simply ask the self-employed person how much he can afford to invest.

One suspects that most Nationwide staff providing pension advice will follow the second course. If they are trained to provide a full service they could earn far more with a registered insurance broker or financial planner—but the intention is that they will remain on staff. The commission paid by Abbey Life will go to the society, not the advisor. This leads on to the third feature.

Abbey Life is paying Nationwide commission rates at the top of the scales laid down by the Registry of Life Assurance Commissions. In theory, such sums should be paid only to expert independent intermediaries.

Nationwide could have accepted the lowest commission rate—still an adequate reward for the sales job—and negotiated better benefits from Abbey Life.

Eric Short

BUILDING SOCIETY RATES

	Share a/c	Sub'n shares	Others
Abbey National	7.50	8.50	8.75 Seven-day account 9.25 Higher interest acc. 90 days' notice or charge 6.25-8.75 Cheque-Save
Aid to Thrift	9.60	—	— Easy withdrawal, no penalty
Alliance	7.50	8.50	8.75 7 days' notice, immed. wdl. if balance £2,500+ Int. pd. 4-yrly, mthly. inc. optn. if bal. £1,000+ 9.25 Bank Save. Bal. of £2,500. Current account
Anglia	7.50	8.50	8.25 3-year bond. No notice, 3 months' penalty 9.25 Capital share. No notice, 1 month's penalty 8.75 7 days' notice. No interest penalty
Barclays	7.50	9.25	9.50 2-year termshare—3 months' notice 9.15 Special investmt. share/monthly income share
Bradford and Bingley	7.50	8.50	8.00 Premium access. On demand, no pen. £1,000+ 9.25 High income. 3 months' notice or 90-day pen. 8.50 Plus a/c £1,000+. No notice. No penalty.
Bristol and West	7.50	8.50	9.45 £20,000+. 9.20 £5,000+. 8.95 £1,000+. 7-day notice Triple Bonus. Also Monthly Income
Britannia	7.50	8.50	9.00 7 days' notice. 9.15 28 days' notice
Cardiff	9.00	9.10	9.50 90 days' not. Penalty if balance under £10,000
Catholic	7.50	8.30	9.30 Extra share. Interest monthly. Maximum 9.75
Century (Edinburgh)	8.55	—	— 9.30 Permanent 2/3 years or variable
Chelsea	7.50	8.50	9.75 Immed. withdrawl. int. pen. or 3 months' notice
Cheltenham and Gloucester	—	8.50	— Gold. No not. No pen. Under £1,000. 7.50 Over, 9.00; £5,000+ 9.35 when monthly int. added
Citizens Regency	7.75	9.00	9.15 7 days. 9.25 1 month. 9.50 3 months
City of London (The)	7.75	9.00	9.50 2 months' notice—no penalty—monthly income
Coveotry	7.50	8.75	9.20 21 days' not. int. access for amts. over £10,000 9.75 3-year bond £1,000+. close 90 days' notice and penalty, monthly inc. opt., guaranteed 2.25 diff. Money-maker inst. acc. no pen. 8.45 £20,000+. 9.20 £5,000+. 8.85 £1,000+. monthly inc. opt.
Derbyshire	7.50	8.75	9.50 y. y. 2 m. 90 days' not. Penalty if balance under £10,000
Gateway	7.50	8.50	9.00 Gold star £1,000+. No notice. No penalties. Monthly int. £5,000+ 9.35 if added to account
Greenwich	7.50	—	— 9.50 90-day a/c (7-day a/c 8.75-9.25 subject to bal.)
Guardian	7.75	—	— 9.85 6 months. 9.60 3 months. £1,000 minimum
Halifax	7.50	8.50	8.75 7-day Xtra. 7 days' notice, no penalty 8.75 28-day Xtra. 28 days' notice, no penalty 9.25 90-day Xtra. 90 days' notice, no penalty
Heart of England	7.50	8.75	9.25 90-day notice. 8.75 5-day notice
Hemel Hempstead	7.50	9.00	9.75 90 days. 9.50 60 days. 9.25 28 days
Hendon	8.00	—	— 9.50 7-d. a/c min. £500. 10.00 3-mth. a/c min. £1,000
Lambeth	7.65	8.75	9.20 7-d. a/c. 9.80 Maximum a/c 6 wks. + loss of int.
Leamington Spa	7.60	—	— 9.10 5-yr. mthly. income. no not. £5,000 min.
Leeds and Holbeck	7.50	8.25	9.75 High flyer. no notice, no penalty. £10,000 min. 9.85 Supershare. no not., 14 days' pen. £2,000 min.
Leeds Permanent	7.50	8.50	8.00 Monthly interest. 9.25 28 days' notice or pen. neither if £10,000 still in account
Leicester	7.50	8.50	8.75 Liquid gold. No not. no pen. 9.00 on bal. of £2,500+. 9.25 10th issue. 9.25 3 months' not.
London Permanent	8.00	—	— 9.50 60 d. not. or imm. wdl. no pen. if bal. £7,500+
Midshires	7.50	—	— 9.50 60 d. not. or pen. No not./pen. if bal. £10,000+
Morling	8.30	7.90	8.50 £2K+. 8.85 £10K+. 8.80 £20K+. £22,000+
National Counties	7.80	8.80	8.80 90 days' notice, no penalty. + £1,000+
National and Provincial	7.50	8.50	9.50 APEX (+2% std. 3 yrs.) int. wdl. 60 days' pn. 9.25 90 days' notice/pen. unless bal. days 10,000+ 9.00 28 days' not. 8.75 7 days' not./penalty as above
Nationwide	7.50	8.50	9.25 Capital bonds, 3 yrs., 90 days' notice/penalty 9.25 Bonus-90, 90 days' notice/penalty 9.00 Super bonus. 28 days' notice/penalty 8.75 Bonus-7, 7 days' notice/penalty
Newcastle	7.50	8.75	9.25 90 days' notice. 9.00 28 days' notice 8.50 7 days' notice. On demand with penalty
Northern Rock	7.50	8.75	9.75 2-year term access with penalty 9.50 Money-spinner plus £20,000 or more 9.25 Money-spinner plus £5,000 or more 9.00 Money-spinner plus £500 or more
Norwich	7.50	8.75	9.05 7-day share monthly income option 9.25-9.75 imm. wdl. if over £2,000. Monthly income
Peckham	8.25	—	— 9.50 Flexi-plus 90 days' notice monthly income
Peterborough	7.50	8.50	9.10 Flexi-plus. Minimum £500. No notice imm. wdl. 9.50 Prem. Min. £500. 2 months' notice. No penalty
Portman	7.50	9.25	9.50 3 years. 9.60 30 days. 9.35 30 days. 9.05 7 days 3 mths. 9.50 6 mths. 9.35 28 days. 9.25 1m. ac.
Portsmouth	7.65	9.15	9.80 2-yr. limited share. 1.75 guaranteed differential
Property Owners	8.00	9.50	9.70 Sovereign £10,000+. 9.35 £500-£9,999. Monthly inc. 8.35. min. inv. £2,500. Inst. access no pen.
Scarborough	7.50	8.75	9.30 3 m. 9.05 1 m. 9.05 £10,000+. no pen. no not.
Skipton	7.50	8.75	9.15 7 days. 9.10 Sussex high. 9.40 90 days
Stroud	7.50	8.75	9.15 Over £5,000. imm. wdl. Under £5,000 7 d. not.
Sussex County	7.50	9.00	9.60 3-year term. Other accounts available
Sussex Mutual	7.60	—	— 9.50 90 d. not. or pen. No not./pen. if bal. £10,000+
Thrift	7.40	—	— 9.00 7 d. not. or pen. No not./pen. if bal. £10,000+
Town and Country	7.50	8.50	9.00 No notice—no penalties—minimum invest. £1
Wessex	9.95	—	— Prime—no notice, no penalty, minimum £500
Woolwich	7.50	—	— 9.00 Monthly increase shares. 28 days' notice 9.25 Capital. 90 days' notice/penalty
Yorkshire	7.50	8.50	9.25 Diamond key. 28 days' notice or 90 days' pen.

All these rates are after basic rate tax liability has been settled on behalf of the investor.

Optability: the first and last word in company pensions

There are 414 insurance funds. Now OPT lets you move your pension around them all.

Every insurance group seems to have something special to offer when it comes to pension plans for directors and senior executives. The problem is you can't choose all of them. Usually you choose only one group and are then effectively "locked in" to it and its products until you retire. If you do decide to change groups, perhaps to switch to better performing funds or as a result of changing jobs, there are difficulties. But then you probably won't worry too much about that... until you retire... and then it will be too late.

414 funds under one scheme

OPT, the Optional Pension Trust, is a brand new type of pension scheme. Its complete flexibility means you can take advantage of what's best throughout the insurance industry all under one scheme. Not just the 414 unit-linked products but also With-Profit and Deposit Administration schemes; in fact all insured schemes.

What's more, OPT gives you greater influence over your own pension investments. With OPT you can reduce risk by spreading your pension across different groups. You can switch to better performing funds. If you need a loan-back you can switch to the group offering the best facilities. And, of course, you will be able to take advantage of any future developments. We call it optability.

OPT makes portability work

In theory, an employer who accepts existing "portable" pensions often has to set up a new scheme for each one. In practice, he could end up with as many schemes as employees! OPT makes portability practical. It can accept any "portable" pension which means your company will never need to set up another scheme.

OPT is secure

You have, if you choose, the security of the major insurance groups, with which OPT allows you to invest, but you also have influence over the investment decisions. And, for final peace of mind, Lloyd's Bank as Custodian Trustee will hold the Scheme assets at the direction of the Managing Trustees (D. W. Thomas (Pensions) Ltd.).

...and finally

We believe OPT is the best executive pension scheme yet devised. The concept is so simple we're surprised nobody has thought of it before. And its simplicity means that it costs no more than any other scheme to set up.

You owe it to yourself to find out more. Just return the coupon, no stamp needed, or call us on Redhill 68211.

The Optional Pension Trust, FREEPOST, Somers House, Linkfield Corner, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1ZB.

Please send me further details on OPT.

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms)

Company Name

Address

Tel. No.

FT

OPT

FIRST PUBLIC OFFER

MERCURY AMERICAN INCOME FUND

Put your assets to work earning income in the strongest economy in the world.

There has seldom been a better time to invest in the United States with the objective of earning income.

First, company managements in a wide range of industries have liberalised their dividend policies, so that attractive income returns are much more generally available today than they were a few years ago.

Secondly, there are many well-run and soundly-based companies which we believe are currently undervalued by the market and offer good yields.

For the investor who wishes to diversify his income-producing assets away from the United Kingdom market, therefore, there is a strong case for looking at the US.

Until recently, however, unit trusts paid such a high rate of tax on overseas income that very little income was left for unit holders.

Now that the levels of tax on overseas income have fallen and are set to fall further, the way is open for you to put your income-producing assets to work in the world's most powerful economy.

The Mercury American Income Fund has been designed to help you do exactly that.

THE FUND

The Fund's objective is to produce a good yield to the investor, principally from investment in the shares of quoted US (and, where appropriate, Canadian) companies, although the Fund may also hold convertibles and fixed-interest stocks.

The Managers will be prepared to protect the Fund against the risk of a fall in the value of the US dollar against sterling and expect to engage in such "hedging" transactions for approximately 50% of the Fund initially.

The initial target gross yield is 5½%, compared with present average yields of about 4½% in both the US and the UK. The Managers consider this a realistic expectation. The Managers will be concentrating on a comparatively small number of holdings in high-yielding shares; and since these are currently undervalued by the market, there is substantial scope for capital growth as well as income.

The price of the units, and the income from them, can go down as well as up. However, it is notable that this selective approach to currently unfashionable stocks has helped to make another Mercury unit trust (Mercury Recovery Fund) the best-performing UK growth fund over three years to 1st January 1985.*

THE MANAGERS

Mercury Fund Managers is part of Warburg Investment Management, one of the United Kingdom's largest and most consistently successful investment teams, which is responsible for the management of over £8,000 million in the UK and overseas.

HOW TO INVEST

Consult your professional adviser or simply complete the coupon below

Mercury
Mercury Fund Managers Limited
part of Warburg Investment Management Limited
33 King William Street, London EC4A 3AS

GENERAL INFORMATION

The minimum initial investment in Mercury American Income Fund is £1,000. Subsequent investments may be made in amounts of at least £100.

Units may be purchased or sold back at offer and bid prices calculated daily. Prices will be published daily in the Financial Times and the Daily Telegraph but without responsibility for any error in publication or for non-publication.

Contract notes will normally be issued within two days of receipt of applications. Units can be realised at any time and payment will normally be made within seven days of receipt of the redemption certificate(s).

Management Charges: an initial charge of 3% is included in the offer price of units. The annual management charge is 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the Fund, which is charged initially against income and is taken into account when calculating the prices of units. On giving three months' notice, the Managers would be prepared to increase this charge to a maximum of 1½% (plus VAT). The Managers are also entitled to a rounding adjustment included in the bid and offer prices of up to 1% or 1.25%, whichever is less.

Unlisted annual accounts will be sent to unit holders and a report on the progress of the Fund, together with a list of current holdings, will be sent to unit holders twice a year.

Income, net of basic rate tax, will be distributed to holders of distribution units on 20th May and 20th November commencing on 20th November 1985. The Managers also offer accumulation units. Yield on the prospective portfolio as at 22nd January 1985 the gross current yield has been estimated at 5.83% per annum.

Continuance is paid to qualified intermediaries and rates are available on request. The Managers are Mercury Fund Managers Limited, a subsidiary of Warburg Investment Management Limited and a member of the Unit Trust Association. The Trustee is Williams & Glyn's Bank plc. The Fund is a UK authorised unit trust and a "wide-range" investment under the Trustee Investments Act 1961. Trust Deeds the Managers and Trustees are permitted under the terms of the Trust Deed to write or purchase Traded Call Options or purchase Traded Put Options on behalf of the Fund.

First offer of units in Mercury American Income Fund at 50p each until 26th March 1985.

(After the close of this offer, units may be purchased at the current daily price.)
The Mercury Fund Managers Limited, 33 King William Street, London EC4A 3AS.
Telephone 01-280 2860. (Registered Office: registered in England, No. 1102517)

I/We wish to purchase distribution units/accumulation units in Mercury American Income Fund to the value of £ (minimum initial investment £1,000)
A cheque made payable to Mercury Fund Managers Limited is enclosed.
I am/We are over 18 years of age.

☐ In the event of my/our application not being successful by 26th March 1985, I/we wish the full amount submitted to be returned to me/us. (Unless this box is ticked, your monies will be invested in units at the offer price unless you request otherwise.)

☐ Please tick this box for information about the other Mercury funds.
Please tick in appropriate columns distribution units or accumulation units will be allocated.

Signature (Mr/Ms/Ms) Title
Distribution to: ☐ Accumulation ☐ Distribution ☐ Both
Address:

(Payments and correspondence will be sent to the address unless you specify otherwise.)
Signature Date
(Please sign and stamp and send your application to the address above.)
This offer is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

FT/2/85

مكتبات الصحف

BOOKS

Charlie bobs up again

BY NIGEL ANDREWS

Chaplin: His Life and Art by David Robinson. Collins, £18.00. 782 pages.

There are at least as many Charlie Chaplins as there have been books written about him; and those, David Robinson assures us in his mammoth biography, run to several hundred. There is the slapstick Chaplin, the satirical Chaplin, the sentimental Chaplin, the womanising Chaplin, the "communist" Chaplin... how can any biography, even of 700 pages plus appendices, embrace all these faces? And how much can new revelations about Chaplin, ferreted forth by Robinson from Hollywood vaults, FBI files and the generosity of Lady Chaplin in unearthing private documents and working papers, tell us that we don't already know about the man and the artist?

The book's answer is, plenty. This is one of those addictive biographies in which you start by looking in the index for items that interest you, then find that each item has a knock-on effect into the next, and as dawn breaks you're reading the book from cover to cover.

Robinson makes little attempt to "sell" Chaplin to us: his is a work of history rather than of critical evangelism. But it's fleshed out with rich Dickensian detail—an apt attribute since Chaplin's South London childhood was adorned with a mother whose eccentricity turned into certified madness (she spent several months in asylums) and with spells on the Music-hall stage which were preceded by less auspicious spells in local work-houses.

Robinson has dug up the original LCC records of these sojourns; and he has also scoured the turn-of-the-century playbills and posters to give us a virtually complete theatrical history of our hero and family, from Mum's success as the "Charming Little Chatter" to sonny's triumph in everything from *Jimmy the Fearless*, or *The Boy Hero* to *Sherlock Holmes*.

Soon Chaplin was making the legendary transatlantic leap to Hollywood and we swing into an immaculately researched run through the production vicissitudes, the scarcely less regular marriages and divorces, and the growing murmur of American

disaffection over Chaplin's "politics". If there is a weakness in the book, it is Robinson's limitless tolerance of his not-always-admirable hero—and dare one say it?—his gullibility to the pathetic touch.

I find it hard to swallow hook, line and anifle the director Robert Florey's "haunting" first memory of Chaplin as a walk-like figure seen walking alone one evening on Sunset Boulevard. This anecdote, which Robinson repeats in full, has everything from a cold December night, to a stray dog whom Chaplin befriends, to a dinner invitation casually, effulgently thrown out to Florey. It's a scene that might have been created by Chaplin himself, to the accompaniment of a surging violin theme.

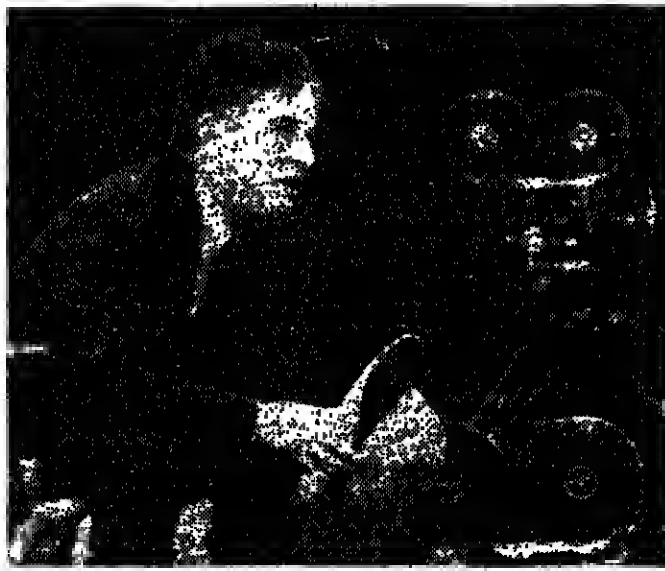
In addition to giving other people's sentimentalities the nod, Robinson sometimes perpetrates his own. During the last dying week of Chaplin's mother in a California hospital, the star visited her every day and "forced himself to joke with her." Now where does Robinson get this flagrant touch from? Only, apparently, from a report that the day before she died, the nurses "heard them laughing together." The result is a piece of speculative editorialising, which helps to boost a view of Chaplin as Mr Wonderful off-screen as well as on.

One resents such touches only because the standard of scholarship elsewhere is so high. The author gives chapter and verse for nearly all his sources, and

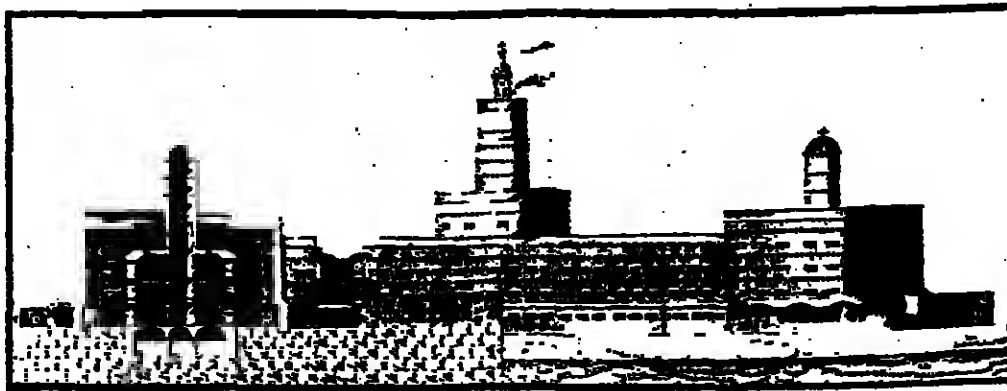
he has left few VIP pals of Chaplin's memories untapped.

There are funny or exotic passages from Chaplin's life which deserve and get the fullest treatment. Like the chance shipboard encounter with Jean Cocteau, with whom Chaplin shared two Pacific voyages (to Hong Kong and back). Neither agreed afterwards on how the journey went. Chaplin said he mostly avoided Cocteau, Cocteau claimed they became firm friends. And there is the wonderful tale of film studio secretary Nelly Bly Baker, who was given a small role in *A Woman of Paris*—as Edna Purviance's poker-faced but gossip-mongering masseuse—and practically stole the movie. Here Robinson plus down precisely what made Chaplin, given the right player, brilliant as a director. Miss Baker, he writes, "as a perfect mimic, provided Chaplin with the acting material most ideal for his purposes: bodies through which he could convey his own performance."

Packed with pictures, many of which you've never seen before, and with generous appendices (notably on the "FBI v Chaplin," a mouth-watering trailer for the book on the subject Robinson is now contemplating), this biography should be given shelf-space by all Chaplin addicts. And even those who have reservations about Chaplin the artist and/or the man now have a fund of new facts to weigh into the battle with.



Chaplin on the set in the early silent days



Drawing of a coastal tower by Montalbert in his controversial treatise "Fortification Perpendiculaire." It is one of the illustrations in "The Fortress in the Age of Vauban and Frederick the Great, 1660-1789" by Christopher Duffy. This book is volume two in Mr Duffy's fascinating and well-researched history of siege warfare. It is published on Thursday (Routledge, £30.00)

Solzhenitsyn—a case of flawed greatness

BY ERIK DE MAUNY

Solzhenitsyn by Michael Scammell. Hutchinson, £18.00. 1051 pages.

It is inevitable that any biography of Alexander Solzhenitsyn is likely to arouse controversy, and Michael Scammell's weighty examination of the master's life and work is clearly no exception to that rule. It is also apparent from the opening chapter onwards that this is a major achievement, cool, deeply serious, and immensely detailed.

At the same time, despite all the diligent research behind it, this biography still provokes certain nagging doubts. To take Solzhenitsyn first: I do not think he can be placed on the same level as Tolstoy and Dostoevsky, with whom he has been compared, and if he has won a secure place for himself in 20th century literature, that is partly for extra-literary reasons. He is a great writer, nonetheless, not least in his heroic effort to reveal the truth about the hideous sufferings inflicted on his country by the Communist regime, behind its habitual smoke-screen of lies and deceit.

The biography itself arouses other doubts, because of the peculiar circumstances of its composition. In the opening stages, the author was able freely to consult Solzhenitsyn, both by letter and during a week he spent at Solzhenitsyn's carefully guarded retreat in Vermont. But in 1976 that co-operation was suddenly withdrawn. Then, in 1982, Mr Scammell received word from Solzhenitsyn's first wife, Natalia Reshetovskaya, in Moscow, that she had heard his book was in preparation and offering to help. She had already compiled her own account of her difficult relationship with Solzhenitsyn (they were married young, divorced while he was a political prisoner, and married a second time when he was released from exile), and she now produced a spate of new material. It has been suggested that she did so at the prompting of the KGB. In any case, it is inevitably from her vantage point that this sorry tale is told, right up to the final collapse of the marriage in a welter of recriminations, and Solzhenitsyn's marriage to his present wife, Natalia Svetlova.

This episode forms a central part of the biography, but it is not, of course, the whole of it, which is at its best in describing Solzhenitsyn's long struggle to find his true creative path. He had begun writing as a boy, and writing increasingly became the dominant passion in his life. In adolescence, he became an ardent Communist, and given his general brilliance, could no doubt have aspired to a successful career in the party apparatus. Then came the war against Germany. Solzhenitsyn joined up, fought bravely, rose fairly swiftly to the rank of captain in the artillery, and then, almost lightly, he started a correspondence with an old school friend, also in the army, in which they both agreed that Stalin's Russia left much to be desired, and proposing a new "Leninist" programme of their own. The correspondence was discovered. Solzhenitsyn was arrested, and made his entry into the terrible world of the forced labour camps that he was later to describe in the *Gulag Archipelago*.

It was, however, *A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, written after his return from exile, that first brought him fame. Tvardovsky, the brilliant

editor of *Novy Mir*, managed to get Khrushchev to sanction its publication, and Solzhenitsyn became a literary hero overnight. He did not allow it to go to his head. He preferred to remain in provincial obscurity in Ryazan, not only indefatigably amassing material for *Gulag*, but dreaming of a vast projected history of Russia in the First World War and the Revolution.

Gradually, however, Moscow exerted its pull, and he went there more and more often, making new friendships among the liberal intelligentsia, notably with Tvardovsky. This was a sometimes stormy relationship, which he later described in *The Oak and the Colt*. It provides a vivid portrait of literary Moscow, but he is less than generous to Tvardovsky, and in some ways it shows him at his worst: devout, sanctimonious, and fanatically self-centred.

On the other hand, without these very flaws, could he have achieved what he did in talking on the entire Soviet establishment? It is, at least, not surprising that, since his expulsion from the Soviet Union in 1974, he has taken an increasingly sombre view of the human condition, both in West and East alike. He has certainly never lacked courage, as I can vouch for personally, having talked with him in his wife's Moscow flat on the very eve of his arrest (he even recorded an unpublished section of the *Gulag* for transmission to the BBC); the streets outside were thick with KGB, but he showed all the imperturbability of a great wartime commander facing impossible odds.

Some readers may be put off by the sheer bulk of this biography. They should not be. It is a gripping picture, both of a prophetic figure and of the totalitarian society, which rejected him for telling the truth about it that it cannot bear to face. Erik de Mauny was the BBC's Moscow Correspondent from 1963-66 and from 1972-74.

Disputed territory

BY ANTHONY VERRIER

From Time Immemorial: The Origins of the Arab-Jewish Conflict over Palestine by Joan Peters. Michael Joseph, £15. 601 pages.

Joan Peters is an American journalist and former White House consultant on the Middle East. She has now produced a vast book which, to traverse, the reader must be prepared for rather too much desert of repetitive assertion and too few cases of cogent argument. In effect we have two books: valuable material contesting Arab claims to Palestine—which Peters denies possessing an historically established identity; second, a tendentious account of Palestine under the League of Nations Mandate. Although the territory was ruled between

1920-48 by British officials, actuated about equally by force and benevolence, Peters would have us believe that Arab interests were favoured and Jewish ones denied.

The gravamen of this charge is that Jewish immigration was curtailed, but that Arabs from neighbouring territories were allowed to seep into the territory to seize power when the Mandate expired or was renounced by the British Government. Peters is partly driven to this interpretation of recent history by her exhaustive examination of past centuries and by an interesting and original attempt to compare Arab and Jewish population figures throughout the 19th century.

When Peters is providing historical data and relying on good primary sources like British consular reports she makes a telling case. If one

reflects on this material, the only objective conclusion is that a Jewish identity was established in Palestine long before Muslim Arab occupation developed into permanent settlement.

Unfortunately, for those who want to see more light and less heat affecting the Palestine issue, Peters is also determined to show the peridy of successive British governments during the Mandate and its immediate aftermath. In order to do this, she pursues an errant course. At one page we are in the Fifteenth (Christian) Century, on the next in the 1930s.

The effect of this attempt to prove two cases almost simultaneously is self-defeating, inducing a reaction of "a plague on both your houses." But a more serious criticism must be made of this important book. In recent years Arab writers have made strenuous efforts to discuss the Palestine issue in relatively moderate terms. Much of this welcome change may stem from Sadat's visit to Jerusalem in November 1977, but more is due to a belated realisation that an independent Arab Palestine will only emerge

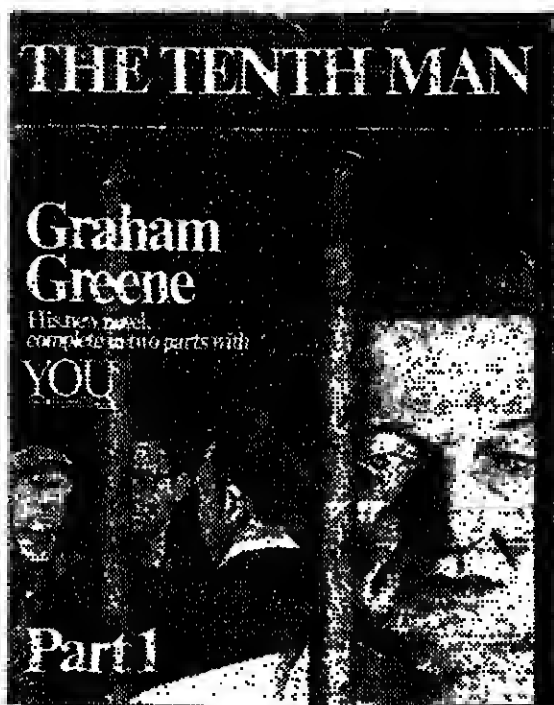
the good-natured (not good-hearted) sergeant. It is picturesque in form; the Western love affairs are handled over-sentimentally in the style of Hemingway; everything else is perfect. If you want to know about Czechs, Stalinism, the Germans as they behave when in occupation, Canadian culture, young students of the early 1970s, the hopelessness and the sheer stupidity of all ideologies; if you feel like affirming rather than denying in spite of everything; if you like laughing...

Lisa Alther wrote *Kinkyfics*, and is overrated. In that novel she created a "saucy sexy" girl, then for *Original Sin* she went to older people for her material. Now she gives us a heroine who has discovered that maturity is the "biggest problem yet." Miss Alther herself is 40; she has not given her new character many financial problems. *Other Women* is a tedious tale of a "journey through therapy." Caroline Kelly has "tried everything," and is currently living with another woman. This is a popular book, and I can think of many good popular books: Hardy, Conrad, Lawrence. But they became popular eventually. Their authors wrote because they had something they felt was important to say; but it was later generations, on the whole, who picked up the message. This book appears to have been written for the popular market. It will be a huge success, although not among discerning readers.

Patricia Angadi is now 70, and this is her first novel. She married an Indian, and has spent her life involved with Indian politics and music. But she has always remembered a governess who lived with her family for 35 years. Based on these memories, she has written a convincing novel. *The Governess* contains a fine character portrait of an apparently affable and efficient woman who yet has something of the demonic about her. It is a pity perhaps that one of the characters is called Miles, because this reminds the reader that the author has memories of a certain book by Henry James as well as of her own childhood. But it is nonetheless an intelligent and notable debut. Furthermore, the nature of what is "wrong" with Mabel Herring is very well handled.

Brian Glanville, a prolific writer of fiction as well as a deservedly famous sports writer, is a trifle unlucky not to have gained more credit for his lively, authentic stories. His use of dialogue was always expert, and his range very wide. These qualities are maintained in this new collection of stories, and a new novel. The novel is about two Americans living in Florence on the G.I. Bill of Rights in the early 1950s. The Florence of that period is vividly evoked, the story is simple and tender. The stories are lightweight but skilful and enjoyable.

Readers of other Sunday papers will be talking about this novel. Readers of The Mail on Sunday will be reading it.



The discovery of Graham Greene's lost novel 'The Tenth Man' is already the publishing event of the year.

For forty years it has been locked away in a safe in the offices of MGM.

Now the safe has been opened to release to the world yet another masterpiece of storytelling from the author of 'Brighton Rock', 'The Honorary

Consul' and 'The Third Man'.

Set in France during the occupation and those fragile weeks following liberation it is a story of fear, recrimination and obsession.

Of weakness and fortitude.

You can read it as a separate pull-out this Sunday and next only in The Mail on Sunday 'You' magazine.

Complete and unabridged.

This novel has been waiting forty years to be read. Now you need wait no longer to read it.



Close to a killer

BY ANTHONY THORNCROFT

Killing for Company by Brian Masters. Jonathan Cape, £10.95. 336 pages.

In those sombre red volumes recounting notable British criminal trials there was always a passage flowing the account of the executions of the convicted murderer in which the author concentrated on the extent of their evil and how justly they deserved their fate.

In Brian Masters' comparable report of the life and crimes of Dennis Nilsen, there is scarcely a hint of disapproval. The very detachment with which he describes the unthinkable—boiling down of heads in cooking-pots; the constant digging up of corpses and the placing of them in front of the television set to provide company: the necrophilia—

It seems wrong that a man who caused such suffering should be treated with the scientific detachment once given to a sheep with two heads.

Masters attempts to offer some explanation of Nilsen's behaviour in his childhood viewing of the body of his much-loved grandfather: "He developed an obsession with male corpses. Nilsen seems very happy to analyse his own behaviour, keeping Masters busy with a constant flow of reminiscences; poems; drawings. He seems surprised by his holocaust as the outside world. A study of this comprehensive and compelling account prompts at least one reader to suggest that Nilsen was a very, very, nasty man, needing a Calvinist minister in

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

Announcements below are prepaid advertisements. If you require entry in the forthcoming panels, application should be made to the Advertisement Department, Bracken House, 10 Cannon Street, EC4A 3DF. Telephone: 01-248 8000, Ext. 4064. Order and payment for books should be sent to the publishers and not to the Financial Times.

The Process of Innovation

by Dr. Nuala Swords-Laherwood
A comprehensive study of UK, U.S. and Canadian companies with innovation. It includes a review of recent research as well as case studies in nine industrial sectors and five companies.

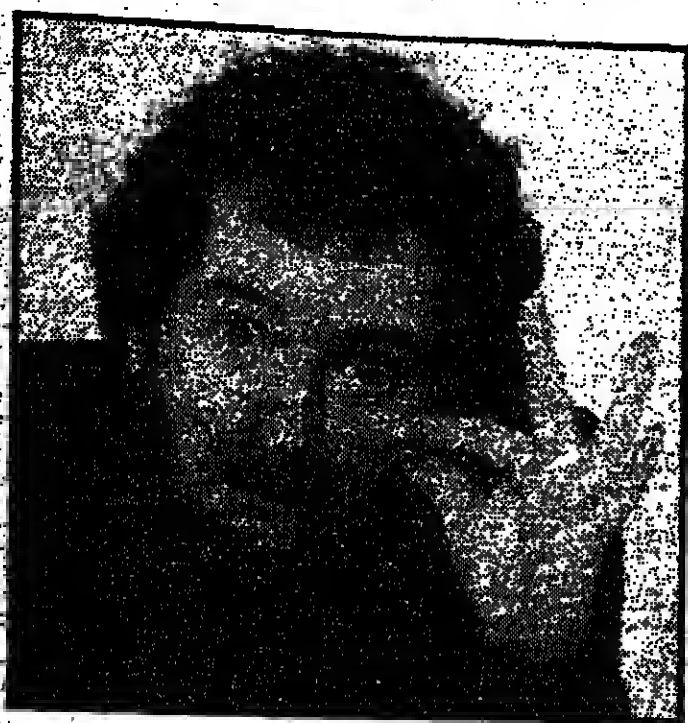
British-North American Committee
36-37 Grosvenor Gardens House
London SW1
Tel: 01-828 6644
Price: £6.50 plus £1 p.p.
ISBN: 0-902296-47-6

The Coming Computer

Industry Shakesout
Winners, Losers and Survivors
by Stephen T. McClellan, Vice-President, Safelink Brothers Inc.
Read this book twice. What higher compliments can the reviewer give? Written with verve and authority. The author obviously knows the industry and the technology inside out... a really good read. John Wiley & Sons Limited
Baffins Lane, Chichester
Sussex PO19 1UD
Tel: Chichester (0243) 79000

HOW TO SPEND IT

For your eyes only



Specs don't need to be dreary... you can look quizzical like Mrs T... or scholarly like Kenny Everett...

IT IS just 18 months since Steven Isaacs opened his first shop, For Eyes at 16, High Holborn, London WC1 and brought about a revolution in the way that spectacles are bought and sold.

If you were one of the 2 in 5 of the population who was wearing glasses at the time you'll remember only too clearly what it was like. First, you had to book an appointment with a qualified optician, which had all the overtones of a gloomy medical encounter. If you could only go in the lunch-hour you might have had to wait (as I did) at least a fortnight to be slotted in.

Once your eyes were tested the optician took you through the range of frames displayed around the shop. None of them was priced. Nobody discussed money. Nothing looked exciting. You hoped wildly that you weren't getting out of your depth and when more in despair than in rapture you finally settled on a frame that would "do" you had to wait another fortnight before they were ready.

Steven Isaacs changed all that. He made buying specs easy, fast, and above all, fun. Anybody can walk off the street into any one of the 11 branches of For Eyes he now owns and have the free eye examination by a qualified optician that we are all entitled to once a year under the NHS there and then. If you already have a pair of glasses and want another like it, you needn't even have another eye test—the glasses are simply slotted into a machine which analyses the prescription and lenses can be ground and fitted to match it on the spot.

Whether you decide to choose glasses or contact lenses you can nearly always be sure of walking out of the shop clutching your new set the very same day, and usually it can all be done while you wait.

Steven Isaacs believes in making everything crystal clear to the customer. Large notices round the shop tell him everything he needs to know. Every frame on display has a price tag attached to it and this is the total price the customer will pay for the frame and for single vision plastic lenses and tinting.

The range of frames his shops stock is immense and so colourful as to make spectacle buying seem like an adventure. There is everything on display from the sedate and discreet to the outrageously... diamond be decked. There are glasses for the blue-stocking set, frames for the extroverts, colourful ones if you want to match every outfit and the latest, most sought-after frames for the fashion-conscious (thin tortoise-shell frames, second from bottom in our sketch right, are currently very modish).

For those who like the confidence of big names there are

designer ranges by houses like Dior, Nina Ricci, Porsche, Oliver Goldsmith or Versace. Rayban glasses are still very popular and mirrored sunglasses are the coming thing for the summer.

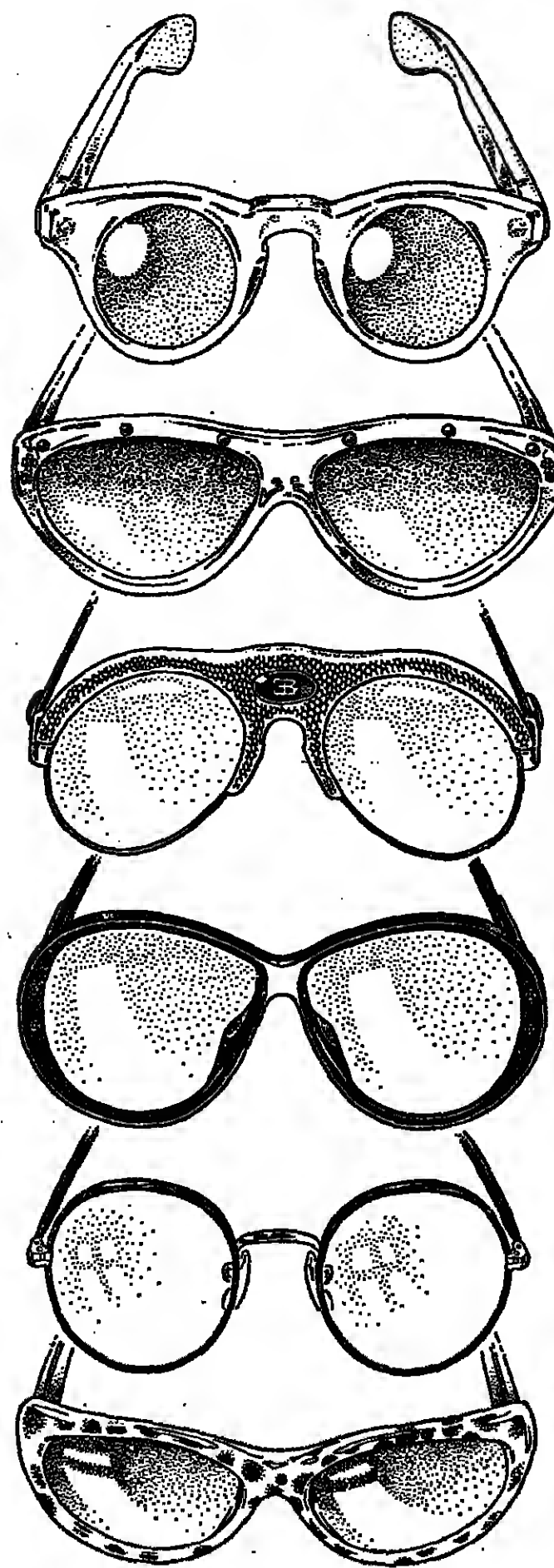
The public seems to have greeted Steven Isaacs arrival with something akin to rapture, with men as well as women treating the whole business of buying their specs as a much more confidence-boosting experience than ever it was before. Men, it seems, are becoming braver, buying more specs and becoming less shy about admitting that they too would like some flattering shapes and colours.

When from April 1st only children up to the age of 16 (or 19 if in full-time education) and those on supplementary benefit will be entitled to subsidised NHS glasses (moral: if you want a pair get them NOW) he sees a large sector of the spectacle-buying public being thrown on the open market. Which is why this week he is raising more money on the Over The Counter Market to finance the opening of more For Eyes shops in the provinces.

That's all very well, I hear you say, but what about prices? Steven Isaacs claims that to begin with his prices were about 15 per cent to 20 per cent lower than his rivals but that since his arrival they have dropped their prices to match. Whereas most NHS specs seem to cost somewhere between £10.55 (the cheapest) and £30, For Eyes cheapest pair is £24.95 but most of the frames I would have liked were somewhere between £35 and £60.

Needless to say, his activities haven't endeared him to the optical establishment who are wont to wring their hands and winge on about the "commercialisation of optics."

If commercialisation means that I can walk into a shop this morning, have a proper, thoroughly professional eye test, and walk out with a pair of glasses or contact lenses the same day, then I'm all for it. As far as I'm concerned it's a big improvement on what went on before.



A selection of frames from For Eyes. Listed from top to bottom, prices for optical glasses include single vision lens and tinting, with the sunglasses prescription lenses are extra. Linda Farrow acetate sunglasses in a wide range of colours, including fluorescent pink, £22.50.

Paola Bovesi sunglasses, again in many colours, £75.

Bugatti racing sunglasses.

with leather look-alike trim, £145. Optyl frames by Christian Dior, £51. Thin wire-like tortoise-shell coloured frames by Anglo-American, £54.50. Leopard pattern sunglasses frames by Oliver Goldsmith, £35.

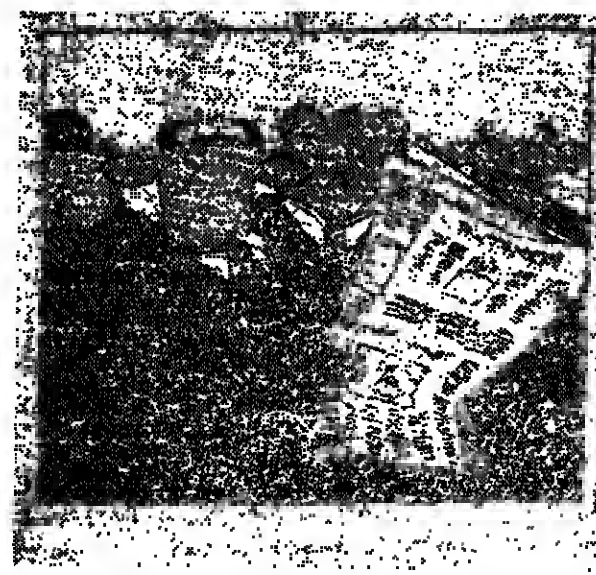
For Eyes branches are at: 21 James Street, Covent Garden, London WC2; 32 St Anne Road, Harrow, Middlesex; 130 Sloane Street, Knightsbridge, London SW1; 82 Putney High Street, London SW15; 156 Salisbury House, London WC1; 18 High Holborn, London WC1; 97a Golders Green Road, London NW11; 21 Chesapeake, London EC2; 65 The Strand, London WC2; 39 Edgware Road, London W2; 15a Railway Street, Harford, Here.

Scenes from City Life

HARRIET BRIGDALE is an artist who seems to have a special following amongst city folk — her own whimsical touch is no doubt a soothing antidote to worries about whether the pound is steady or the index is going up or down. She is probably most famous for her charming anthropomorphic animals, (I am particularly fond of her sheep myself) but no doubt to please her city fans there is now a series of elephant bankers, sheep clerks and bear stockbrokers all depicted going about their city business.

She works in miniature and the etchings reproduced here are tiny, measuring roughly some 2 1/2 ins by 3 ins for the image alone. Graffiti, a gallery that specialises in miniatures, always has a large selection of Harriet Brigdale's work and city fans might like to know that Graffiti now has two branches — one at Blackman Harvey, the framers, at 29, Earham Street, Covent Garden, London WC2 and another at 11, Mason's Avenue, Coleman Street, London EC2.

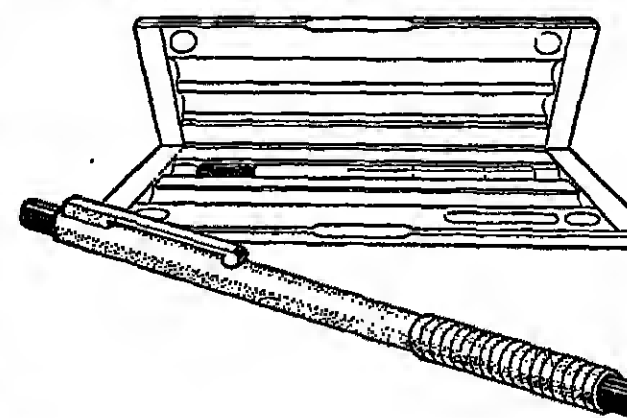
The two Brigdale etchings shown here are in pale pink, grey and green and "Buying and Selling" and "No Comment" are each £16.10p. Also in the series are "City Gent" and "For Someone Special" at £13.80 each. The gallery in Earham Street is open from Monday to Friday 9 am to 6 pm and on Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm, while the City branch is just open on Mondays to Fridays from 10 am to 5 pm.



Slim-line chic

Black, it seems, is beautiful. A look around that immensely chic establishment, Joseph pour la Maison, at 16, Sloane Street, London SW1 immediately reveals that of the select group of objects that have passed through the very discerning sieve of Joseph Ettedgui's taste, some 80 per cent are pure matt black (and if you're curious about the rest, they tend to be either transparent or chrome). Black, when fashioned so impeccably, when displayed in such a disciplined, ordered way, makes gold and silver seem flashy and out-of-date.

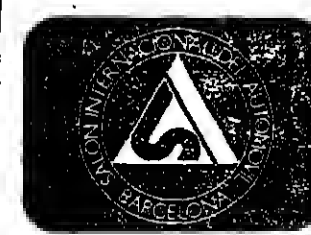
As much in love with pure matt black as Joseph Ettedgui is Ferdinand Porsche, a breakaway member of the car family who now runs the design studio that produces a steady flow of instantly desirable and infinitely expensive "accessories." Part



Frank Wheeler

TWO KEY DATES FOR THE MOTORING WORLD

4th to 12th May 1985



● Cars.
● Motor homes.
● Lorries commercial vehicles, industrial vehicles, special transportation vehicles and car washers.
● Coaches, buses and minibuses.
● Parts, components parts, spare parts, and accessories.
● Bicycles, mopeds, motor cycles.

● Garage, repair shop and service equipment.
● Lubricants. ● Competition section.

April 26th to May 1st 1986



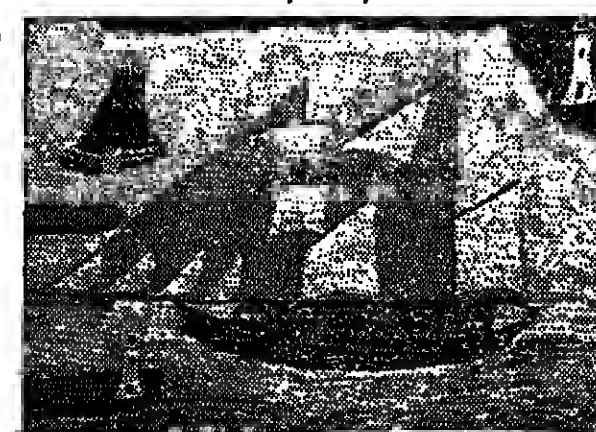
and everything connected with the manufacture and marketing of these.
● Lubricants and similar products connected with the automobile industry.
● Equipment for handling and haulage of material for assembly chains, conveyor belts and transportation bands.
● Land, sea and air transport, freight and carriage.

Feria de Barcelona

Avda. Reina M.^a Cristina s/n - 08004 Barcelona - Spain
Tel. (93) 223 31 01 Telex 50458 FOIMS-E

ST IVES 1939-64

Twenty five years of painting, sculpture and pottery
13 February-14 April 1985



Alfred Wallis: The Blue Ship

A unique opportunity to see the richness and variety of work created in the Cornish fishing port by 50 artists and craftsman, including Nicholson, Hepworth, Gabo, Wallis, Lanyon, Heron, Frost, Hilton and Leach.

Tate Gallery

Millbank London SW1

Admission £1.50 Monday-Saturday 10-5.30 Sunday 2-5.30
Closed 5 April Recorded information 01-821 7128

BRIDGE

E P C COTTER

IN TODAY'S two hands both declarers went down, because they failed to see any way of safeguarding their contracts. Here is the first hand from a rubber:

N
♠ J
♥ Q1084
♦ Q102
♣ KQ874

W
♠ 108753
♥ 953
♦ 8764
♣ 5

S
♠ AQ9
♥ CK72
♦ AKJ5
♣ J63

South dealt with both sides vulnerable, and bid one no trump. North introduced a Stayman two clubs, and learning from his partner's response of two diamonds that he had no four-card major, settled for a raise to three no trumps.

West led the spade five, covered by Knave, King and Ace—to hold up would be a serious error. At trick two South led the club three to the Queen and Ace. East returned the two of spades, South won, and proceeded to run off his minor suit winners, but he ended up with short of contract, as East still had the clubs held.

If West holds the club, Ace and King, he cannot continue spades with advantage; if West wins with the heart Ace, and returns a heart, South takes with the Queen in dummy, and leads the club King, to set up his ninth trick.

N
♠ 10873
♥ K102
♦ Q5
♣ AQ103

W
♠ A5
♥ J874
♦ K108643
♣ 2

E
♠ K4
♥ 9653
♦ AJ97
♣ 765

S
♠ QJ962
♥ AQ
♦ 93
♣ KJ984

South dealt with East-West vulnerable, and bid one club. West overcalled with one diamond, North raised to three clubs, East said three diamonds, and South rebid three spades. This was raised to four spades by North, and all passed.

West led the club two, an obvious singleton, taken with the Ace, and declarer returned a spade from the table. This was taken by the Ace, and West returned a diamond to his partner's Ace, and ruffed the club return. Then the spade King returned. The declarer felt frustrated. He saw the impending ruff, but with no entry to dummy could not cash three hearts and discard his losing diamond.

South could have done the next best thing. At trick two he should cash the heart Ace, overtake the Queen with dummy's King, and return the ten, on which he discards his diamond three. As West has the Knave, he has to win the trick, and the defence can make just two trump tricks.

RICKETY TABLES, unsafe chairs and worn-out sideboards don't induce gloom in Richard Holmes, says JUDY WHALE; he positively welcomes them. He's a former architect who now repairs and restores furniture in Barnes, south-west London. He turned to professional woodworking a few years ago, and runs a one-man firm, Chair Man. As the name implies he specialises in chairs, but will happily accept other silling pleas.

He deals mainly with antiques, but can also cope with modern items, like Danish rosewood for example. He's gifted and immensely painstaking: he replaced the crumbling leg of an intricately carved Victorian footstool with such care that its owner, her friends and a carpenter were baffled — impossible to tell which was the new leg.

Mr Holmes' particular passion is veneer and marquetry work. This is exacting and time-consuming, so such repairs aren't cheap; but the results are worth the price.

One caveat: Richard Holmes points out that he's solely a woodworker or caning. Richard Holmes is at 1 Baronsmead Road, Barnes, London SW13, telephone 01-748 5816.

IF YOU would like a chance to see some of the best of current British fashion and to help the Save the Children Fund at the same time, then on Thursday March 13, there will be a unique opportunity to do both. Diana Brittan, wife of the Home Secretary, Leon Brittan, has helped chair the committee which is aiming both to boost British fashion and to help the fund.

POSTSCRIPT

tion in the Crypt of the Guildhall, followed by a fashion presentation in the Great Hall (in the presence of Princess Anne) followed by dinner at 9.30 pm in the Old Library. A few tickets for this event are still available at £30 a seat.

If £30 is more than you feel like spending there is a matinee dress rehearsal, also at the Guildhall at 2.30 pm for which the tickets are £10 each.

Tickets for either event can be obtained from Save the Children Fund, 17, Grove Lane, London SE5.

As to the fashion, what will be on show will be a range of top designer names like Jean Muir, Hardy Amies, Murray Arbed, Tom Gilbey, Paul Costelloe as well as clothes from such established retailers as Burberry, Aquascutum, Jaeger and Marks and Spencer. In other words, as Peter Randle, director of the British Knitling and Clothline Export Council put it, "what we will see in the fashion show is the core of the most effective exporters in this country."

THE WHOLE fashion in curtains and blinds has changed dramatically in recent years with houses that once sported restrained pelmet and curtains or clean, streamlined blinds now awash with ribbons and bows, with drapes and elaborate swags. Not surprisingly, all those who became accustomed to making up their own simple curtains and straight up-and-down blinds find themselves less adept when it comes to the newer fashions.

If you'd like to learn how to master these intricate matters and want to do it in your own

then a video film is the perfect answer.

Penny Broom, who owns a successful design and fabric boutique called Material Effects, began by offering to reveal all in a series of classes at her premises on Wandsworth Common, London SW17. These were so successful and she had so many requests from people who weren't within easy reach of London's SW17 that she decided to set about producing a video film.

There are now four VHS half-hour videos which tackle, respectively, interlined hand-headed French pleat curtains, festoon curtains (Austrian blinds), festoon blinds and Roman blinds.

Each film is £19.95 (including p+p) and they are available direct from Material Effects, 15, Bellevue Road, Wandsworth Common, London SW17.

READERS WHO are fond of Florentine and Bargello embroidery but aren't perhaps as expert as they'd like to be, might like to know about Jean Roberts' tapestry kits. Hers differ from others on the market in that one corner of the tapestry is fully worked by hand so that the whole design becomes infinitely easier to follow. As with most kits, everything is supplied from the canvas to the necessary wools and needle.

Those who are just beginners might like to start with one of the smaller canvases — something about 6in square — while old-hands could tackle cushion covers, chair backs or seats. Jean Roberts' starter kits are to be found in most good embroidery shops as well as in Peter Jones and some branches of the John Lewis Partnership.

of the Porsche philosophy is that everything it produces should be beyond fashion — it should have a rightness and a classicism about it that should last forever.

Certainly the two Porsche products sketched here, the titanium pen above right, and the lighter, above, are exemplary examples of the philosophy.

The pen, you will be happy to hear, is also a joy to write with—it comes with two interchangeable cartridges giving a choice between a roller-ball

point or a fine liner for exact lettering. It is £30. The lighter, so slim and fine (just 5mm in depth) one wonders how it encases the necessary mechanics, is £75.

Both are sold from Porsche Design boutiques at Harvey Nichols and Harrods in London, from leading jewellers and from Porsche car centres throughout the UK.

Finally, a jokier variation on the matt black theme—the Tank Roy lighter with Super-Star written on the side, costs just £13 and is available from Astrohome, 47-49, Neal Street, Philip Stevens

point or a fine liner for exact lettering. It is £30. The lighter, so slim and fine (just 5mm in depth) one wonders how it encases the necessary mechanics, is £75. Both are sold from Porsche Design boutiques at Harvey Nichols and Harrods in London, from leading jewellers and from Porsche car centres throughout the UK. Finally, a jokier variation on the matt black theme—the Tank Roy lighter with Super-Star written on the side, costs just £13 and is available from Astrohome, 47-49, Neal Street, Philip Stevens

THE ARTS

Berlin film festival/Nigel Andrews sums up

Britain lightens the gloom

Someone in the new Jean-Luc Godard film, *Je Vous Salue Marie*, says: "I've long since forgotten what an everyday conversation is like." The line instantly struck a chord all across Berlin, summing up the mood of intellectual cabin fever that takes over a film festival in second week. If you try to discuss the weather, food, football or politics, people gaze at you with a slightly stricken stare as if you have gone off your rocker. The only permissible conversations are ones that begin, "Have you seen such-and-such?" or "What did you think of So-and-So's film?" or "Are they laying on an extra screening of the latest Duras/Tanner/Tarkovsky/Godard?"

This, alas, was a festival in which the hoped-for answer to the last question was usually "No." Though the Berlin fringe was as animated as ever, the main competition was comatose. Films like Gillian Armstrong's *Mrs Soffel* (Diane Keaton and Mel Gibson battling with unplayable dialogue and lily-dark visuals in a prison-break drama), Ian Pringle's *Wrong World* from Australia (drug addiction, *weltschmerz* and purple prose narration Down Under), and an unspeakable battery of badness from Eastern Europe prompted the question: Does the Berlin selection committee really think these are the best films on offer? Or has everything else already been bagged by Cannes, for unveiling two months hence?

Amid the general devastation, Britain came up positively gleaming with its two official entries: David Hare's Golden Bear-winning *Wetherby* and Hugh Brody's *1919*. Hare's Yorkshire-set thriller of manners like Agatha Christie with aphorisms and hidden depths—opens in London next week; more then.

Brody's chamber drama about two ex-patients of Freud (Maria Schell and Paul Scofield) meeting in Vienna 50 years after treatment is crushed in style but crackles in content. Being a British Film Institute Production Board movie, its visuals have all the sexuality of a maiden aunt girding herself up for tea with the vicar (even the cut-in black-and-white newsreel-furries of Europe in the teens seem academic rather than animating).

But Brody's flat-on staging does allow two superb performances to grow—Schell, wistful and astringent as she relives (in

flashback) the anguish of her teenage lesbianism. Scofield alternately growling and pouting as the White Russian émigré whose incestuous love for his sister took him to the couch of Vienna's Incredible Sbrink.

1919 plonks its camera down at the crossroads between world history and private passion. To Godard's *Je Vous Salue Marie*, it's modern love and biblical stuff that crosses. Godard's 1980-style Virgin Mary is a young girl (Myriam Roussel) who has never given herself to a man but is about to give birth to a child. Her fiancé, Joseph (Thierry Rode) is suspicious of the latter fact and glum about the former, at least where his own desires are concerned. The infant is finally born and, after growing up a bit, runs about saying things like "I shall call you Peter" (to a schoolmate) or "I must go and attend to my father's business" (to Joseph).

The French Catholic Church has gone hopping mad about this movie: not because it's an updated Nativity but because Godard has sprinkled it with frank language, colourfully disrespectful characters (including a seedy "Uncle Gabriel") and a great deal of nudity. Even so, it is hardly likely to attract the raincoat clientele, being also Godardian in its brain-bending blend of elemental imagery (sun, sea, moon), symbolic montage, wildly dotty soundtracks (sudden growls of organ music, surges from a string quartet), and a fractured hide-and-seek narrative that you need a cup of black coffee and a wet towel to keep up with.

After only one viewing, the film is scarcely comprehensible; except as a "sacred love" counterpoint to Godard's profane love tale in *Prénom Carmen*. Unlike many opaque French films, however, Godard's sheer fizz as a filmmaker does encourage you to come back and search for more on a second or third viewing.

To turn from this to Bobby Roth's *Heartbreakers* is like having an all-expenses-paid holiday after a bout of overwork. We are in Los Angeles where the sun shines, the night life sparkles and navel-contest-platters of the world unite. Struggling painter Peter Coyote and millionaire friend Nick Mancuso sashay through this hedonistic haven looking alternately for true love and base passion. Instead, they find nymphomaniacs (Carole Laure), Elaine May-type introverts

("When we make love, do we communicate?") and a world where success is as unpredictable in life as in love. Coyote makes it big at the galleries with a new line in fetishistic nudes, Mancuso's family garment business totters into the red.

The film bubbles with easy wit and bohemianism, even though the buddy-buddy flavour tends to turn all the women characters into conveniences or obstacles along the path of male pleasure. Would that Marguerite Duras's comic quip *Les Enfants* had half its vitality. The *doguisme* of French letters has here tried to cross-fertilise an absurdist conceit out of Ineson (man of 40 thinks he's a child of 10 and so do his parents) with a deadpan-minimalist visual style out of Straub. But, as often happens with French letters, the fertilisation does not take place.

Best to veer away from the main competition's other failures of fertility and home in on the ever-fertile fringe. Here, there were good documentaries (Edgardo Cozarinsky's *Jeon Cocteau—Autoportrait d'un Inconnu* and Gyula Gazdag's *Group Excursion*, about Hungarian Auschwitz survivors revisiting the camp); lively short-story features (Ruth Butler's *Seder*, a horror spoof *Screamplay*, Jacob Burckhardt's deadpan comic crime yarn *It Don't Pou To Be An Honest Citizen*, with pop-up cameos from William Burroughs and Allen Ginsberg); and several wondrous movies that sidestepped category altogether.

Best among the last were Daniel Schmid's *Tanco's Kiss*, Derek Jarman's *The Angelic Conversation*, and Robert Kramer's *Notre Nazi*. The first is a glorious plunge into the weird world of the "Casa Verdi," an Italian home for retired opera stars (bequeathed by the composer) where Schmid records the *scenarii* expressive transport of 70-year-old tenors singing (or screeching) "Vissi d'Arte" and 80-year-old tenors brazening it out with "La Donna e mobile." *Magnificence*.

Jarman's film was funded by Good Heavens! the BFI Production Board, and, in this instance, I take back everything I said about maiden-aunt visuals. Male torsos shimmer across the screen in hazy, lyrical stop-motion; rocky landscapes blaze with sudden fire; the sea's surface flares and shivers; and even and anon Judi Dench's voice reads out one of Shakespeare's



Maria Schell... superb

sonnets, on whose "Angelic conversation" the film is based. This is cinema-as-painting—a guise we see it in far too seldom—and superbly achieved.

Robert Kramer's *Notre Nazi* is cinema-as-exposé. It's a film about the filming of a film; namely Thomas Harlan's *Wundkanal*, in which a real-life Nazi war criminal—Alfred Filbert—submits to a thinly fictionalised two-hour interrogation by director Harlan (son of Third Reich filmmaker Veit Harlan). Both movies were shown in Berlin, but Kramer's is far more effective. He captures not only the cold and leathery fear of Filbert, at bay amid the hot lights, but also the ambiguous motivation of Thomas Harlan himself—he is seeking justice or merely the vicarious exorcism of his own guilt about his father?

There were other vivid life-forms on the Berlin periphery: not least a giant Special Effects retrospective (from King Kong to *Dorby O'Gill*, *Mary Poppins* to *Eraserhead*) and accompanying exhibition. All the festival now needs is to give the kids of life to the main competition and Caones will have to look to its palm trees, Venice to its gondolas.

Landscapes that capture a country's heart

Colin Amery reflects on a rich and subtle exhibition of British watercolours.

Until May 5, visitors to the Drawings Gallery of the British Museum are in for a treat that is both rich and subtle. British Landscape Watercolours 1600-1850 is a superb exhibition of the art of the watercolourist from Hollar to Ruskin. The quality of the 195 paintings, and the sheer beauty of the views of Britain they portray, raises the question: Is it because the British countryside is so varied and beautiful that we have produced some of the finest landscape artists in the world?

In her introductory essay to the catalogue of this exhibition, Lindsay Stainton discusses in a useful way the problem of reconciling nature with art. She takes an historian's view of the problem, and her chronological approach is a good summary of British theories of vision and landscape. But in some ways it is misleading to see this exhibition as a display of landscape art. As Miss Stainton points out in a footnote, nearly 85 per cent of the pictures in the show can be described as topographical. So, taking topography to mean the detailed delineation and/or description of a locality, we have at the British Museum a view of Britain from 1600 to 1850 that is both a record and a vision.

Hofmann's view of Nonsuch Palace, painted in 1568, is of great importance as a record of the English Renaissance—a palace that lasted only 150 years. This

picture represents the aspect of topography that is concerned with a feeling for property and the making of accurate records of one's possessions. It was an added poignancy today because it is one of the few images of Henry VIII's built panoply.

There was a strictly practical purpose behind Wenceslaus Hollar's prospect of the fortifications of Tangier. Hollar was making a record of Tangier for the British Crown (it had been acquired as part of the dowry of Catherine of Braganza), but his work is nevertheless devoid of pictorial imagination.

When we come to the views of Georgian England, the painters of the townscape were likely to be influenced by Canaletto or some of the earlier Dutch painters—marine artists like van de Velde or painters of the Dutch Golden Age like van der Meer. William Scott's views of the Thames have that Dutch wateriness about them, with hulks of ships looming in the foreground. But they also are a glorious record of London of the 1760s.

The long view of St Paul, from a point somewhere in the middle of the Thames near the Temple, shows the then-new Blackfriars Bridge. This watercolour gives the most moving sense of the majesty of St

Paul's cathedral seen, as we have never seen it, accompanied by a chorus of City spires, its dome rising to a crescendo of weightless form.

Thomas Sandby's architectural background (he was the Royal Academy's first Professor of Architecture) shows in the precision of line he applied to his views of London. The Piazza, Covent Garden, and Beaufort Buildings, looking towards the Strand, are both full of architectural detail. The octagonal ballards and suspended lanterns in the arcades of the Piazza are telling points that could be useful to those attempting to "restore" the area today.

Francis Towne's work is a revelation. He was never really appreciated in his lifetime (1799-1816) but he anticipated the stylisation of forms that became so commonplace in the 20th century. To see him alongside his contemporaries also gives an important insight into the conventions of the time—by ignoring many of them, Towne made possible later experiments.

The hanging of this exhibition is so good; often it is possible to make comparisons under the gentle pressure of the selector. Thomas Malton's view of St Laurence Jewry and the Guildhall (1783) seen along-

side "Warwick" Smith's Church of SS Trinitia dei Monti, Rome, shows the limitations of a sometimes oversimplified architectural approach. Accuracy gains at the expense of atmosphere. Often, in the architectural works of the late 18th century you can smell the proximity of the engraver and print-maker, prompting a loss of subtlety.

Thomas Girtin's views of North Wales and Yorkshire are well known; but seeing them in their historical context makes it possible to realise how truly revolutionary this contemporary of Turner was. But it is the drawings of his panorama of London that are his most extraordinary achievement: Girtin exhibited an enormous panorama of London, the *Eidometropolis*, painted in oils and 108 ft long by 18 ft high. The oil version has vanished, but these studies are all that remain of that extraordinarily atmospheric illusion of the city.

Cotman, Turner and Samuel Palmer are represented here by familiar, and sometimes favourite, works. The remarkable Lloyd Bequest to the British Museum of 1898 has made it possible to see several of the very best of Turner's England and Wales series, hung for the first time with a selection of the very best work of his contemporaries. Some of the greatest works of Peter de Wint, particularly the view of Lincoln, have the scale of Turner but never even aspire to the subtlety.

BBC steals a march on the National Theatre

It was cute of Radio 3 to take Peter Tegel's translation of Alexander Vampilov's *The Duck Shoot*, which was commissioned by the National Theatre but isn't visibly scheduled yet. If it weren't Russian we'd write it down as lower middlebrow, but it's good to hear something of Russian boulevard-theatre besides Arbuzov.

Viktor Zilov (Gawn Grainger) is always on about his duck-shoot, but the likelihood of his happening is always put off by his house-warming party, his affair with a language student (Emily Morgan), the inaccuracy of his journalism, his father's death and his thwarted suicide after his wife Galina (Carole Boyd) has decided to leave him. Everyone is addressed by sundry nicknames, as Russians are, but the play and the translation are lucid and cheerful, except when dealing with such pethos as I've listed. David Spenser

was the director. Vampilov was 30 when he wrote it, and died five years later. Jobs and flats were treated almost casually in Vampilov's Marxist Russia. They're taken seriously in capitalist Glasgow. Ena Lamont Stewart's *Men Should Weep*, written in 1947 but dealing with life in a Glasgow slum in the '30s, is like a kick in the crotch, and yet there is no serious violence and no bad language. It is a picture of a home in a Glasgow cleft, nine members of the family crammed into a modicum of space, with the head of the family on casual work.

There is little plot (daughter Jennie leaves to live in sin with a businessman, comes back with the money to get the family into a new home and is repulsed by her religious father) but it is not the plot that matters. It is the sequence of everyday family misfortunes—problems with

RADIO
B. A. YOUNG

the kids or the daughter-in-law or the sick baby—that piles into an unbearable mountain of misfortune. A grand cast, directed by James Runcie, is headed by Eileen McCallum and Roy Hanton as father and mother. They all speak broad Glaswegian, yet were never difficult to understand. Really smashing, this.

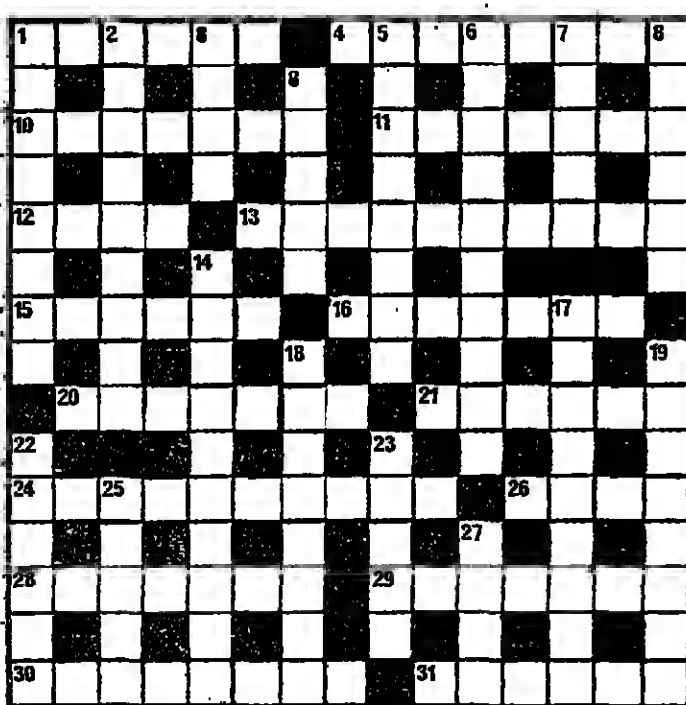
Staying at the more serious end of the spectrum, I found Michael Charlton's conversation with Jan Nowak about the Warsaw uprising of 1944 of fascinating interest. (It was broadcast last year but I didn't catch it.) Nowak, never more than a lieutenant, was a courier coming

Poles in Warsaw and the exile Polish headquarters in London. The Polish Home Army intended to take over the city between the German retreat and the Russian incursion but Stalin incomprehensibly suspended his promised help at the last minute.

One day, a Russian broadcast told the Poles the uprising was part of their duty; then, they would be told that the uprising was an irresponsible plan run by criminals. So the uprising took place without Russian help and when the city was decimated by the SS the Russians were able to move in with a minority Communist party surviving to help them.

More than almost any nation, the Poles revere honour and justice and this tragic business does them immense credit. Michael Charlton is easily the best serious interviewer the BBC has.

F.T. CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 5,658



A prize of £10 will be given to each of the senders of the first five correct solutions. Solutions must be received by next Thursday, marked Crossword in the top left-hand corner of the envelope, and addressed to the Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4A 3DF. Winners and solutions will be given next Saturday.

Name _____
Address _____

- ACROSS**
- Large girl with two busbands? (6)
 - Did it on a bend, which is extra (8)
 - Cathartic medicine: beast of burden gets a look in (7)
 - Region for lad distorted in mentality (7)
 - Sort of board between barrels? (4)
 - Grasping article, not all of a piece, about the Channel Islands (10)
 - Burdensomeness of the (7)
 - Almost paleface poet (7)
 - Poebles on the beach (English variety) (7)
 - Outside a book, woman will develop (6)
 - Cry for aristocrat's blood? (4, 6)
 - Fishy clean for tea (4)
 - Turkish tie of three letters, we hear (7)
 - Absence of mind means job will be available (7)
 - Guardian's role, to show disapproval of false age (8)
 - Writer or river or spring (6)
- DOWN**
- Dorsal feathers yield to ultimatum (4, 4)
 - Writer or craftsman or slight little modification? (9)
 - Dual carriage-way with tiny frozen hand? (4)
 - A month in a river to
 - Coward's present is significant (10)
 - State where I had a small house (5)
 - Mind us changing out of all our clothes? (6)
 - Note on "L'amour" that fits very well (5)
 - Extraordinary fellows first appearing in an antiseptic (10)
 - Cry at terminus or in 8 above? (3, 6)
 - Trifling, possibly, with affections (8)
 - Light in Greek letter left as a give-away (8)
 - First two letters posted missing? (6)
 - Permission to go could be French (5)
 - A French seizure is imprudent (8)
 - Mark of Wilde's beheading? (4)

BBC 1

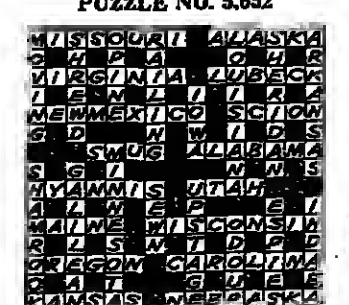
† Indicates programme in black and white

- 7.10-8.25 am Open University.
8.30 Roobarb. 8.35 Battle of the Planets. 9.00 Saturday Superstore. 12.12 pm Weather News. 12.15 Grandstand, including 12.50 News Summary. Footbal Focus with Bob Wilson. Racing from Newbury at 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30. Racing from Haydock Park at 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45. Rugby Union: Live coverage of Scotland v Wales at Murrayfield, followed by highlights of Ireland v France at Lansdowne Road; Final Score at 4.40.
5.05 News. 5.30 Regional variations. 5.50 Jim'll Fix It. 6.05 The Laughter Show. 7.15 One By One. 8.05 Dynasty. 8.55 News and Sport. 9.10 Miss Marple: A Murder is Announced. 10.05 Match of the Day Special. 11.10 "A Question of Guilt," starring Tuesday Weld.

REGIONS

- Wales—8.30-9.00 am Rugby Union: T. T. T. Asian. 8.15-5.20 pm Sports News. Wales. 12.45-12.50 am News of Wales Headlines.
Scotland—8.15-5.20 pm Scoreboard with Dougie Donnelly. 10.05-11.10 Sportscentre.
Northern Ireland—12.15-5.05 pm Grandstand, including Rugby Union: Live coverage of Ireland v France followed by highlights of Scotland v Wales from Edinburgh, and 4.55 Northern Ireland results; 12.45-12.50 am Northern Ireland News Headlines.
England—8.15-5.20 pm London—Sport; South-West (Plymouth)—Spotlight Sport and News; All other English regions—Sport and Regional News.

SOLUTION AND WINNERS OF PUZZLE No. 5,652



Mrs Y. Rogers, 25 The Waldrons, Thornford, Sberborne, Dorset.
Mrs N. Hamilton, Flat 7, 44 Stanhope Gardens, London, SW7.
Miss P. M. Matthews, Flat 2, Maybury Avenue, Exeter, Devon.
Dr I. M. Campbell, 18 St Chad's View, Headingley, Leeds, Yorkshire.
Mr J. Walters, 24 Cedar Grove,

BBC 2

- 6.25 am Open University.
7.10-8.25 am Open University. 8.30 Roobarb. 8.35 Battle of the Planets. 9.00 Saturday Superstore. 12.12 pm Weather News. 12.15 Grandstand, including 12.50 News Summary. Footbal Focus with Bob Wilson. Racing from Newbury at 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30. Racing from Haydock Park at 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45. Rugby Union: Live coverage of Scotland v Wales at Murrayfield, followed by highlights of Ireland v France at Lansdowne Road; Final Score at 4.40.
5.05 News. 5.30 Regional variations. 5.50 Jim'll Fix It. 6.05 The Laughter Show. 7.15 One By One. 8.05 Dynasty. 8.55 News and Sport. 9.10 Miss Marple: A Murder is Announced. 10.05 Match of the Day Special. 11.10 "A Question of Guilt," starring Tuesday Weld.

LONDON

- 6.15 am TV-am Breakfast Programme. 9.25 LWT Information. 9.30 Cartoon Time. 9.35 Scooby Scrappy and Yabba Dog. 10.00 No 73. 11.20 Space. 12.20 World Championship Boxing—Light-Heavyweight Championship of the World: Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3.35 Half-Time Soccer Round-Up. 4.00 Snooker. 4.45 Results. 5.05 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. 5.35 The Fame Game. (U.S.) Michael Spinks (U.S.) holder v David Seay (U.S.). 12.40 Athletics Round-Up. 12.45 News. 12.50 On the Ball. 1.30 World Cup Skiing from Furano, Japan. 1.40 Ruffing—The National Breakdown Rally. 2.00 Snooker—Dulux British Open. 3

LEISURE

Ancient glass breaks the auction barriers

INVESTMENT IN ART
ANTHONY THORNCROFT



Beaker, probably from Syria, 1st century AD

THERE ARE still, thankfully, many sectors of the fine art market where the specialist collector dominates and the hard-headed investor hesitates to intrude. One such is ancient glass. On Tuesday and Wednesday, Christie's is selling the collection of glass assembled over the past 40 years by Ernest Koller and his wife Marthe Truniger. The 548 lots represent the most comprehensive collection of ancient glass ever to appear on the market.

But the sale room will be filled with informed experts, specialist dealers and museums. The clever men who follow the indices, and know that antiques will, in the main, sit this one out, bemused by the knowledge needed to purchase with confidence.

Christie's itself faced some problems. Most glass collectors buy later, European items. Could they be persuaded to expand into glass dating from the Egypt of the 14th century BC, only a hundred years or so after glass is reckoned to have first appeared in the Near East and the succeeding 2,000 years? On the other hand, would collectors of antiquities be interested in ancient glass?

To break down the barriers Christie's made a video, with a narration by Robert Powell, which it sent to their overseas offices and sold to dealers. The company hopes this will drive home the point that the Koller-Truniger collection is unrivalled and full of desirable, and inexpensive, things.

The most costly item is likely to be a tiny cameo flask, 7.6 cm high, which was probably made in Alexandria at the time of Christ. It is in excellent condition, with white carvings of a naked boy and a pharaoh over a blue background. It is beautifully combined Hellenistic and Egyptian traditions. Yet it carries a top estimate of about £150,000, a pittance compared with prices paid for quite commonplace pictures.

The collection is particularly strong in Egyptian glass, from brightly coloured fragments,

it, 9.9cm high, which still contains some of the kohl that the original owner used to beautify her face. These are the oldest and finest pieces of glass ever to appear at auction.

Koller was fortunate in building up his collection when it was still possible to buy in Egypt from traders with direct access to tomb raiders. Today the authorities attempt to prevent the indiscriminate export of antiquities. He also bought extensively from the collection of the Comtesse de Behague of Paris.

Only one lot is known to have passed through the auction room previously, an alabastron of around 550 BC of east Mediterranean origin, which was sold by Sotheby's in 1979 in the Constable-Maxwell sale. The only comparable collection to have come on the market in recent years but concentrated on Roman glass. Then the 9.4 cm tall flask sold for £1,400; it is now estimated at up to £2,000. Just as Constable-Maxwell set new levels for Roman glass, with a record price of £500,000, Christie's hopes that Koller-Truniger will do the same for Egyptian glass.

But the glass ranges across the Mediterranean world, tracing its progress westwards. There are some particularly fine and rare mosaic cups and dishes, probably made in Syria around 100 BC with price forecasts up to £40,000, and an impressive beaker, decorated with a snake thread, produced around Cologne about 250 AD carrying a £10,000 top estimate. There are also pieces from France and Italy.

The Kollers were energetic collectors and want to give a new generation of glass enthusiasts the chance to buy prized pieces rather than present their collection to a museum, the alternative solution to a life time's hunting.

Because this is not a speculative, or strong investment, sector of the art market Christie's is putting a cautious forecast of up to £1.5m on the sale. The strength of the dollar should encourage American buyers, and museums, and the Japanese might show again the interest in glass they revealed a decade ago. But the majority of his should come from continental.



Inlay royal head, ancient Egyptian, £20,000-£40,000

There is no Islamic glass to excite the Arabs but the fact that many items were made in Israel might encourage buyers from there.

The items in this sale are so rare that they are certain to hold their prices and appreciate. But it is their beauty and delicacy that attract collectors, not faith in their investment potential. It is strange — but good news for the average collector — that such beautiful objects should not be sought after by the (minority) of the rich who like to buy works of art.

Guide to fair deals

BOOK COLLECTING

WILLIAM ST. CLAIR

FOR THOSE of us who expect antiquarian books to be at least 100 years old, a visit to a country bookshop can nowadays be a disappointing experience. The old stuff is kept on a couple of inaccessible shelves high behind the proprietor's desk, too far away for the titles to be read by the browser. You have to feel quite brave to ask him to move out of his chair and be then hovers impatiently while you are expected to admire a few broken Victorian school prize bindings and some odd volumes of Gil Las and The Rambler.

The best way to see sizeable quantities of old books together is at the fairs which are now held regularly in many towns at

open already reflects to some extent the expected balance of supply and demand. But fortunately for the collector, the selling of old books does not approach the conditions of a perfect market so beloved by economists. With thousands of volumes on display there can be no simultaneous access.

Another obstacle to perfect information is the lighting. The designers of hotel ballrooms and provincial arts centres have appreciated that it would be too depressing to be able to see everything clearly, but they did not foresee all the uses to which the rooms would be put. Keen bibliophiles have felt like ballet dancers and necks like swans from long practice standing on tiptoe craning at dimly-lit shelves. One man to be seen at the fairs wears a large flashlight.

The main fairs in London normally take place in Bloomsbury, where on Sunday mornings you can find gangs of shivering unemployed tourists wandering about aimlessly waiting for the British Museum to open. The PBSA fair is held on the second weekend of every month at the Hotel Russell in Russell Square on Sunday afternoons and all day Monday. Another group of dealers now holds a rival fair on the same Mondays as PBSA at the Bedford Hotel in Southampton Row, a couple of hundred yards away.

These two organisations claim a certain exclusivity which you may or may not consider is reflected in the standard of the books. A different business approach is evident at the Bonington Fair, arranged by the enterprising Barry Higgs at 7 Park Road, Totnes, Devon, which is held on the last Sunday of every month (except for June) in the Bonington Hotel, also in Southampton Row, at the corner of Russell Square. The Bonington claims that prices range from 10p to £1,000 and there are items on offer which seem to me to be overpriced at the former figure. The point is that any book which may be saleable has a last chance to survive. Everyone is welcome, whether dealer or amateur, so if you have inherited a loftful of mixed books from your great-aunt and you fancy yourself as a small businessman, you should rent a stall for the day from Mr Higgs and try your luck.

BOOK FAIRS IN MARCH
Saturday, March 2, Dartington Arts Centre (10-5); Stamford Arts Centre (10-5);
Saturday, March 9, Drottewich Heritage Centre (10-30-5).
Sunday and Monday, March 10 and 11, Hotel Russell, London, WCI (1st day 2-7, second day 10-30-7).
Monday, March 11, Hotel Bedford, London, WCI (10-6).
Monday and Tuesday, March 11 and 12, Scottish Centre, Edinburgh (1st day 12-8, 2nd day, 10-5).
Friday and Saturday, March 15 and 16, Queens Hall, Loughborough (1st day 12-8, 2nd day 10-5).
Saturday, March 23, Imperial Hotel, Exeter (10-6); Church House, Farnham (10-5); Blackfriars Hall, Norwich (10-5).
Sunday, March 24, Kings Head, Monmouth (10-5).
Wednesday, March 27, Fisher Hall, Cambridge (10-5).
Friday and Saturday, March 29 and 30, Royal Baths, Harrogate (1st day 2-8, 2nd day 10-5).
Sunday March 31, Hotel Bonington, London WCI (11-4).

the weekend. Several dozen booksellers each take a stall to which they bring a selection of their most interesting stock. The Provincial Booksellers' Fairs Association produces a calendar of its fairs for the whole year which is obtainable from 111, Park Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire.

Some dealers do the rounds over a wide area and I have seen books which have been up and down the M4 more often than I have. But each fair has a local flavour, attracting dealers and people who work from home and who are not often seen elsewhere.

With so many dealers looking over one another's stock, the price structure when the doors

the weekend. Several dozen booksellers each take a stall to which they bring a selection of their most interesting stock. The Provincial Booksellers' Fairs Association produces a calendar of its fairs for the whole year which is obtainable from 111, Park Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire.

Some dealers do the rounds over a wide area and I have seen books which have been up and down the M4 more often than I have. But each fair has a local flavour, attracting dealers and people who work from home and who are not often seen elsewhere.

With so many dealers looking over one another's stock, the price structure when the doors

Eight-day wonder

SOCCER

TREVOR BAILEY

WHATEVER ELSE can be said about English football, it is not predictable. Two years ago, Brighton put Liverpool out of the FA Cup at Anfield, later took them to a draw at Goldstone Road in a League match after leading 2-0 for three-quarters of the game, reached Wembley only to be beaten by Manchester United in a replay, and sank into the Second Division where they remain, ingloriously.

This year's League and Cup programme produces another Cinderella—Ipswich Town. They face the most demanding and important eight days in their history, starting with their League match against Chelsea at Portman Road today.

At the end of this period the club could be in the Milk Cup Final, the semi-final of the FA Cup and have earned two valuable points in their struggle to avoid relegation. Alternatively and rather more logically, they have dreams of two Wembley appearances in one season could be over and they will be lying on their backs in the First Division and heading for the Second.

Can Ipswich get it all in one time? Well, even teams with the class and the depth of Manchester United, Spurs and Liverpool would consider the programme daunting.

Bobby Ferguson's players have to beat Chelsea this afternoon, knock Sheffield Wednesday, currently performing with great spirit, out of the FA Cup on Monday, overcome Norwich in the away leg of the Milk Cup semi-final on Wednesday and then defeat Everton, the FA Cup holders, and probably the finest side in the land, at

Goodison Park in Quarter Final next Saturday.

Fortunately for Ipswich, one of football's great attractions is its ability to destroy logic, which is underlined by their performances in both tournaments, which is in complete contrast to their indifferent form in the League. Even with a small squad and few top-quality players, they have a chance to spring a surprise.

Ipswich made the rise from the Third to the First Divisions quickly and have held their own with the big teams for many years. Their deserved success has stemmed from some exceptional managers who have maximised on the footballing talent at their disposal, and an enlightened board which has appreciated the need to live with their income.

Watching them in the first leg of the Milk Cup semi-final last Saturday, it was hard to understand why they are in the relegation zone. They not only looked superior to Norwich, but with better finishing they could have begun the second leg with a three, instead of merely a one goal advantage. Their inability to score sufficient goals helps to explain the lowly position in the League table, though young D'Arvy showed considerable promise as a centre-forward, while his partner up front, Gates, who was back after injury, might be even more effective if he spent a little less time protesting to the referee.

Can Ipswich get it all in one time? Well, even teams with the class and the depth of Manchester United, Spurs and Liverpool would consider the programme daunting.

Bobby Ferguson's players have to beat Chelsea this afternoon, knock Sheffield Wednesday, currently performing with great spirit, out of the FA Cup on Monday, overcome Norwich in the away leg of the Milk Cup semi-final on Wednesday and then defeat Everton, the FA Cup holders, and probably the finest side in the land, at

More than a few ripples in the lake

WINE

EDMUND PENNING-ROWSELL

per cent and it is still falling. French consumption has dropped from 92 to 85 litres, and Italian from 88 to 83.

It is indeed on the performance of their exports that the producing countries must rely. We claret drinkers may buy and consume more from Bordeaux in the light of a good vintage, but one cannot expect the people of Tuscany to take in more Chianti after a good year. They are doing their bit already.

France leads the export field for quality wines; whereas a great deal of Italian wines are sold in bulk to France for blending in the Midi, and to the Soviet Union at very low prices. All eyes, including the Germans, are on North America, although their Euroblends of mainly Italian wine mixed with a little German, are likely to damage their reputation there as in the UK. The Italians' large total of 2.7m hl exported to the U.S. in 1982 — compared with France's 905,000 hl — is somewhat downgraded in quality owing to the

predominance of Lambrusco. The Italian wine image is low in America, and in Britain it is too much regarded as a low-price quality wine.

Since it seems unlikely that in the reasonably near future world consumption can be increased to match production of around 350m hl a year, what can be done to reduce output while taking into account the considerable social implications?

Unfortunately France and Italy do not really agree on how to do this. Vin de table is the real problem, and the French believe in improving its quality partly by encouraging higher technical standards, largely through the co-operatives that can afford such equipment as stainless steel vats. They have succeeded in reducing the output of plain vin de table from

63 per cent of total production in 1973 to 44 per cent in 1983. The AOC system of controlled production and yield is aimed at maintaining fairly stable output, but in itself does not. Nearly all Bordeaux appellations were allowed a rise in permitted yield from the 1983 vintage onwards. AOC stocks are rising, from 33 per cent of the total in 1973 to 46 per cent in 1983.

The Italians, whose DOC system on the French lines was introduced in 1965, take a more free-market view, and while working hard to improve quality, and supporting distillation of surpluses, tend to leave it all to the regions. High quality should lead to lower output, but so far there is no decline in land under vines; perhaps the reverse.

The encouraging side of the European wine industry position today for us consumers is that quality is definitely rising. Peasant-made red wines are growing less alcoholic and tough, dry white wines much fresher, especially in Italy.

Reduction of output seems a more intractable problem, which may well be increased by the accession of Spain and, to a lesser extent, Portugal. For while Spain has a vineyard area of 1.6m — 50 per cent more than Italy or France — its production is very small, about half the other two countries: a yield averaging less than 25 hl per ha, compared with France's 60 hl and Italy's 64-70 hl.

Improvements in Spain's viticulture and production yields are surely going to lead to a substantial increase in overall yield; and domestic consumption is going down there too — from 79 hl a head in 1979 to 54 in 1983. Nor is it certain that Spain's wine farmers will benefit from the opening of their market to wines from Italy and France.

Yields are very light too in Portugal's much smaller wine industry: less than 30 hl. They too might be encouraged to raise quality and output. Is there a possibility of another wine lake forming south of the Pyrenees?

How the letter of the law was upheld

COLLECTING

JANEY MARSH



Walter Sculthorpe

IN 1844 the Post Office Commissioners decided to appoint an officer to supervise investigations into the growing number of thefts from the mails. It was they agreed, "a duty not only unpopular but one for which it is very difficult to find an officer possessed of the necessary assets of zeal, tact, patience, coolness and decision."

Fortunately they found Walter Robinson Sculthorpe. For 15 years he was to prove indefatigable in the pursuit of crime, bringing to book no less than 202 cases. In his day he was a well-known London figure: his "detective acumen" even earned a mention in Punch. Yet this colourful forerunner of Sherlock Holmes had remained quite forgotten but for the reappearance more than a century after his death, of his personal journal of adventures in the fight against crime.

Sculthorpe's journals turn up, rather unexpectedly, among the Peasey Blacks and Cape Triangulars of a Sotheby's postage stamp auction on March 14. They consist of two small octavo notebooks, neatly bound in leather. A manuscript title page announces "A list of Dishonest Persons detected in the London District Branch General Post Office since 1844 all of which Mr. W. R. Sculthorpe has been more or less instrumental in apprehending."

The incidence of petty theft among letter carriers was hardly surprising. Punch published a ferocious satirical article suggesting that the job of the postman, with "wages of 20 shillings a week, might replace the treadmill as punishment for the worst sort of criminals." As to the misadventure of having knives and foils among our postmen, there is evidently no help for that but to raise the postmen's salaries.

Even the chaplain of Newgate, in a solemn moral tract, A Double Knock at the Post-

man's Conscience (given to every postman through the benevolence of the Duke of Argyll), was forced to admit: "Small pay is no justification of dishonesty, but it may readily explain why some postmen fail in their duty: good wages ought to be given to take away even a ground of excuse, and all just cause of temptation."

The chaplain, just the same, attributed most of the crimes of letter-carriers to the vices of drink, gaming, extravagance, or irregularities with female society. "One wicked prodigal was shewn... to have been improperly intimate with as many as 16 or 17 of these creatures." Small wonder if this fortunate fellow sought illicit ways to augment his meagre GPO income.

The two principal postal crimes were stealing valuable enclosures from letters, or peeling off the stamps. Sculthorpe's favourite method of entrapping offenders was to send to the postmen, with both the envelopes and the contents marked for subsequent identification.

In many cases these test letters were retrieved—some from the fire—by Sculthorpe, and preserved in the journal alongside the newspaper reports and his own annotations.

He clearly enjoyed fabricating these fictitious letters: some are quite long and elaborate. "Dear Nurse O'way — knowing the interest you always felt for my dear child, I am sure you will be sorry to hear that my poor

little pet is no more. He died last Monday in one of his fits as you had predicted... Chari was just got over an attack of Hooping Cough."

This letter contained a sum of money supposedly meant to buy mourning for the recipient. The trap worked, resulting in the ten-year transportation of a 60-year-old postal worker. Robbing the mails was a serious crime—it was only in 1836 that Lord Shaftesbury successfully introduced a bill abolishing the punishment of death in cases of letter-stealing. Many of the wretched detected by Sculthorpe received even longer periods of transportation.

Sculthorpe's test letters were challenged in the courts in 1846, on the grounds that they were not genuine post letters and so could not invoke the penalties applied to mail robbery. In the event it was ruled that, once committed to the mails, they counted as regular post.

Sculthorpe was evidently not an unkindly man. In 1853 he apprehended one John Wharton.

Reflections on that last furtive cigarette

HOW DID you spend your winter holiday? On the slopes of Val d'Isère. Soaking up the sun in the Caribbean?

I spent mine giving up smoking. It was awful but highly educative. It's only when you make a determined attempt to stop that you appreciate the incredible tyranny of tobacco.

Of course I had heard the horror stories of others who had plucked up the courage to beat the addiction. In fact it was the obviously painful resolve of three close friends who stopped smoking on New Year's day that finally persuaded me to break the habit.

So as the textbooks advise, I chose a period when I could change my routine.

None of this, however, equipped me for the effect of denying myself the 20 or 30 cigarettes I had smoked daily for the previous 15 years or so.

tham the agonies and indignities involved in beating the dependency are scarcely credible.

The first few days without cigarettes are rather a blur now. I spent much of them half-asleep, the logic being that at that state the craving was not quite so acute. Sleeping also mitigated the rather odd and unpleasant symptoms of nicotine withdrawal.

There were also the occasional lapses at social functions, but by far the hardest moments were when I was sitting alone and a furtive smoke did not involve public humiliation.

Into the second week, my inability to focus on anything but the prospect of a cigarette demanded drastic action. A friendly doctor prescribed nicotine chewing gum. It is a disgusting idea and tastes horrible but at least it takes the

The payoff in terms of improved health, which is after all the only good reason for giving up smoking, is also a long time coming. I have spent the last four weeks with a hacking cough as my lungs begin to clear the accumulated tar. Doctors tell us it will take six months to a year before one actually begins to feel better. Unsympathetic friends add that it will take a great deal longer than that before the psychological grip of smoking is finally broken.

Back at the office I still find it impossible to resist the occasional temptation. I haven't yet slunk into the loo for a furtive smoke, but in desperate moments the thought has crossed my mind.

The craving is now occupying only around 70 per cent of my waking hours, a substantial advance on the first week or so.

But you cannot avoid walking past a tobacconist forever. On the first couple of occasions my resolve held but by about Day Four I found myself buying a packet of 10 cigarettes. The paradox of the equidistal induced by the first cigarette and the self-disgust at giving in to the craving was resolved by throwing the rest of the packet away.

The process was repeated two or three times, but the indignities did not stop there. On about Day Eight I found myself in the bar of a restaurant waiting for a friend and congratulating myself on two or three days cigarette-free existence, only to find that my neighbours had left a full packet on the bar after going to the toilet.

Yes, I stole one before handing the rest over to the waiter.

Philip Stevens

FRIENDS FOR LIFE

If you are old and alone, friends can be a great comfort. If you know you can rely on them for the rest of your life — imagine your peace of mind.

We have been looking after the elderly and needy since 1905 and now have eleven residential homes. Here, men and women from professional backgrounds find security and freedom, with nursing care when necessary. They are 'at home' and not 'in a home' — they never have to leave.

We also give financial help to old people from all backgrounds who wish to stay in their own homes. We would like to do more but desperately need more money. So please be a Friend of the Elderly by making a covenant or remembering us in your Will or write today with a donation or enquiry to:

The General Secretary, Friends of the Elderly (Dept. 4) 42 Ebury Street, London SW1W 0LZ Tel: 01-730 8263 Registered Charity number 21654

FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY and Gentlemen's Help

CHESS

LEONARD BARDEN

AMEY ROADSTONE'S young masters' weekend tournament, staged at the picturesque village of Westgate near the sponsor company's West Sussex base, is always an interesting fixture. The half of £1,000 first prize attracts many of Britain's leading players, who have to contend with a small army of professional juniors all eager to scalp a big name.

On the whole, experience triumphs over youth at ARC, but upsets occur in individual games. Thus Dale James, 14, won the brilliancy prize for defeating a former Cambridge University and Hampshire No 1. White's opening looks anti-positional but once the attack gathers momentum, Black's king becomes exposed to a combined force of queen, rook and a couple of weaving knights.

White: D. James. Black: M. Padden. King's Defence (ARC March 1985).
1. P-K4, P-KN3; 2. P-Q4, B-N2; 3. P-KB4, P-QB4; 4. P-Q5, P-Q3; 5. N-KB3, N-KB3; 6. N-B3, 0-0; 7. B-Q3, N-R3; 8. BxN, PxB; 9. 0-0, P-K3; 10. P-P, BxP; 11. P-B3, PxP; 12. P-P, BxP; 13. B-N5, P-R3; 14. B-R4, Q-Q2; 15. BxN, BxR; 16. N-Q5.

White has gambited a pawn, and voluntarily exchanged two bishops for two knights. It looks dubious, but once the knights gain entry squares the picture changes. Here Best seems to have B-Q1, restricting White's KB3 knight and preparing for K-R2 and K-N1 with counterplay.

16...B-N2; 17. N-R4, B-N5; 18. Q-Q2, P-B4; 19. Q-R1, Q-R1; 20. N-KN4, R-R2; 21. R-R, K-K1; 22. N(6)-K7, ch. K-R2; 23. Q-Q5! White abandons his wing strategy to effect as his centralised queen and rook envelop the black king.

23...B-R4; 24. Q-B7, P-Q4; 25. R-K6, P-Q5; 26. QxP, BxN; 27. QxR, ch. K-R1; 28. QxR, ch. QxN; 29. N-N6, ch. QxN.

Black could already resign, but continues a few moves out of inertia and shock.

30. R-Q, P-QB5; 31. R-P, P-Q6; 32. P-P, P-P; 33. R-Q6, Resigns.

Final results at ARC were: Johnson (Australia), Conquest, Hodgson and Speelman all 5/6, with Nigel Short and the Commonwealth champion Kevin Spraggett in a big group, half a point behind.

A recent chess magazine article comparing old masters with contemporary players expressed the view that the moderns are overrated, citing as an example Spraggett's FIDE as an example of 2500 which is on a par with Maroczy and Marshall in the mid-1920s.

In a 1926 tournament the two Ms both drew with Capablanca; could Spraggett have done as well? In fact the Canadian has won! In fact the results including excellent results including his win at New York 1984 and this week's Commonwealth

his own against the British GMS.

Spraggett's victory at ARC over one of the co-winners featured a fine tactical sequence: judge for yourself whether he should have got the brilliancy award.

White: D. Johnson (Australia). Black: K. Spraggett (Canada). King's Indian (ARC 1984).

1. P-Q4, N-KB3; 2. N-KB3, P-KN3; 3. P-B4, B-N2; 4. N-B3, 0-0; 5. P-K4, P-Q3; 6. B-K2, P-K4; 7. P-Q5, Q-N2; 8. 0-0, N-B4; 9. Q-K2, P-QR4; 10. B-N5, P-R3; 11. B-K3, P-N3; 12. N-Q2, B-N3; 13. B-B3, P-Q2; 14. K-R1, N-B4; 15. P-Q3, N-B5; 16. B-B1, N-B4; 17. P-Q3, P-P; 18. N(3)P, P-KN4; 19. P-QN4, N-N2; 20. P-N, P-P; 21. P-P, R-R; 22. R-R, P-N5; 23. Q-Q1, P-R4; 24. P-B5, N-P; 25. P-P, R-R1; 26. R-R7, B-N3; 27. Q-N3, Q-R5.

28. P-N3, N-R6, ch; 29. BxN, QxR; 30. Q-Q3, P-R5; 31. P-N5, R-B7! Till here, a normal King's Indian where White invades the Q-side while Black generates counterplay on the other side. But White's attack has looked the stronger, but Black now conjures up a remarkable sacrifice.

32. R-R, QxP, ch; 33. K-K1, R-P; 34. B-K3, P-N7; 35. R-P; 36. Q-R6, P-N8=Q, ch; 37. N-B1.

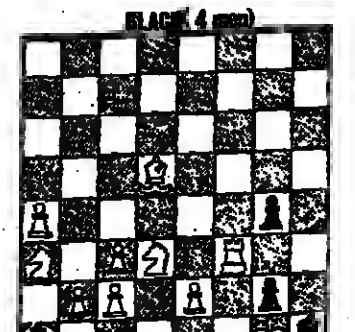
Conceding defeat, but if 37. BxQ, QxN, ch; 38. K-B1, Q-Q3, ch; 39. K-B2 (39. K-N2, BxP, ch; 40. K-P, Q-Q3, ch; 41. K-R3, Q-K6, ch; 42. K-R4, QxP, ch and Black's bishops join the attack with check.

37...Q(7)-N6, ch; 38. K-Q1, Q-B6, ch; 39. Resigns.

POSITION No. 557

From a game in Bulgaria, 1981; how should White (to move) continue his attack?

PROBLEM No. 557



White mates in five moves, against any defence (by F. Kohnlein, 1907). Only a single line of play, but hard to find.

ICI THROUGH £1bn PROFITS BARRIER

Now the going gets harder

By Tony Jackson, Chemicals Correspondent

ICI's breaching of the £1bn profits barrier, announced on Thursday, is a feat scarcely conceivable in 1982, when group performance was growing at a 10-year low. In just 24 months, pre-tax profits have quadrupled.

Through the speed to recovery over something to luck, ICI can take credit for strategic judgment in the grim days of the early 1980s. From now on, though, the going gets harder. The cycle is at its peak, and the next couple of years will provide a stern test of the group's performance in its new, trimmer form.

For the stock market, with its memories of ICI's profits collapse in 1980-82, the chief question is: how robust the group will prove in the next downturn. For ICI, matters are more complex. The group must plan on two time scales—short term, for the next cycle, and more fundamentally again for the longer haul.

The cyclical effect cannot be ignored. The group's basic trading profit has shot up by £760m in two years. But of that, well over a third is accounted for by petrochemicals and plastics (P & P) division swinging from a near-£140m loss to an equivalent profit.

But for ICI, as for most of the world's big chemical companies, the longer haul is much more important. Industry jargon divides chemicals into two classes—commodity, or specialty. Commodity chemicals are sold on price, and specialty chemicals on performance. Commodity chemicals are "bad," because they are cyclical

Planning for the next cycle, and for the long haul

and under threat from new low-cost producers, since they are technologically easy to make. Specialty chemicals—smaller in scale, with higher value-added—are correspondingly "good." The trick is to use the cash flow from the old commodities to propel the business into new specialties.

In ICI's case, the reality is more complex. The group's commodity businesses fall into petrochemicals, and plastics and general chemicals. The latter are something of a mixed bag, but consist largely

of basic inorganic chemicals like chlorine and soda ash, produced in colossal bulk in the group's old heartland, the Mond division in Cheshire. And to a surprising extent they are not cyclical.

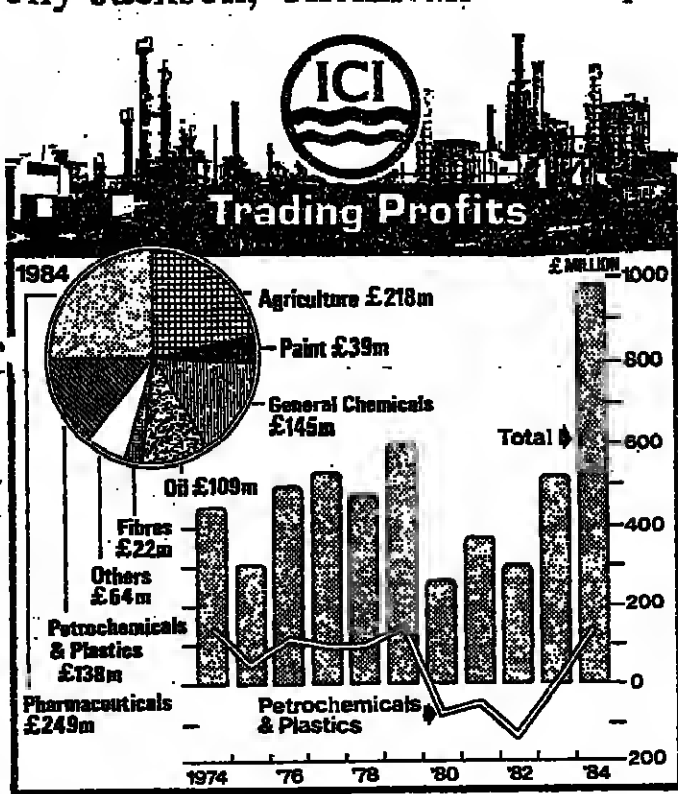
On the specialty side, ICI has its glamour businesses, pharmaceuticals and plant protection, which have grown at a remarkable and almost uninterrupted rate for more than a decade. Even in the latest figures, despite the cyclical upswing in P & P, pharmaceuticals still contributed a quarter of group profit. There are also more tentative specialisations going on, in fields such as electronics and aerospace, often involving the blending of plastics and inorganic chemicals to provide new and different properties.

But though specialty or "effect" chemicals may be an unqualified good thing, it does not follow in ICI's case that commodities are all bad. In fact, there are grounds for seeing general chemicals as ICI's backbone, and to switch metaphors—its cash cow. It is worth considering what happened to general chemicals in the slump of 1980-82. The Mond division's customers are themselves industrial companies, and in 1980 between 70 and 75 per cent of sales were in the UK. The destruction of large parts of the UK's industrial base had a correspondingly drastic effect. In mid-1980, the division's sales volume slumped by 25 per cent.

It has still not fully recovered and stands 5 per cent below its 1979 peak. But even at the worst, in 1982, general chemicals remained solidly in the black, to the tune of £80m at the trading level.

In petrochemicals and plastics, by contrast, markets were always more international, and less damaged. The division is also now selling 20 per cent more volume than at the 1979 peak, and recovering accordingly. But in 1982 P & P lost a horrible £140m.

Petrochemicals may also be a "bad" thing in the longer strategic view. The European petrochemical industry is entering a new and possibly critical phase. In the first place, the explosive growth in plastics, which characterised the 1960s and 1970s, has gone, apparently for good. And second, new and challenging forces are entering the market.



In the longer view, the basic strategy for the group—the shift from commodities to specialties—should prevail.

But the future is a little murky since the big chemical companies are all searching for specialties

The growth numbers for world plastics are striking: until the first oil shock, there was 10 per cent growth in a bad year, 20 per cent in a good. In the 1970s, growth slipped to under 10 per cent at best. In the 1980s, growth of no more than 1-1.5 per cent above GDP, or some 3-4 per cent in total, is as much as can be expected.

Even so, says Tom Hutchinson, divisional chairman of P & P, "until 1980 we never had negative growth. And then the world fell off a cliff."

As ICI's figures bear out, the European industry has come back strongly since then, and left itself with no room to settle down to dealing with its usual problems of overcapacity as the cycle turns down. But it is out going to be left to itself. Large scale, low cost Saudi Arabian production of petrochemicals is starting to hit the European market, and other developing

countries—Turkey, the Philippines—are following suit.

On a short, cyclical view, the threat is a minor one. Saudi output, though unbeatable on cost, will add only some 5 per cent to world capacity. Other new producers will add a few more per cent on top. These are small sums by comparison with overcapacity which still exists within the European industry itself, despite the closures in the downsizing of the early 1980s.

On the longer view, though, the threat is rather different. The manufacture of bulk petrochemicals is technologically basic. Developing countries may or may not have a cost edge over Europe, but they do need to develop an industrial base and to create added value. In pursuit of that, they may be prepared to accept margins which in European terms would be unrealistic return on capital.

This would call for a phased withdrawal by the Europeans. But that is made more difficult by a disease which plagues large parts of the chemicals industry—gigantism, or the urge to be big regardless of profit. ICI is less prone to this than it used to be. In P & P, says Tom Hutchinson, "we've decided that we wouldn't always want to have the capacity to cope with the cyclical peaks—we would prefer to trade. That's a complete change in philosophy."

However, ICI's decision to swap its polyethylene interests for PVC three years ago, for instance, raises several questions. The move had commercial logic, certainly; the Saudis are not a threat in PVC—directly at least—and ICI has the advantage of huge supplies of salt (which is electrolysed into chlorine, which then goes into PVC).

The fact remains, though, that with 11 per cent of world PVC production, ICI is even now—at the peak of the cycle—making only marginal profits on its manufacture. There remains the suspicion that the pride of size came into the decision: that after the virtual abandonment of big products like polyethylene and ethylene glycol, the line had to be drawn somewhere.

In the longer view, though, the basic strategy for the group—the shift from commodities to specialties—should prevail. General chemicals remain as a useful generator of cash, and

it seems logical that the group's involvement in bulk petrochemicals should dwindle further.

This leaves the question of the specialty areas into which the group is to move. In pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals—the two established growth specialties—the outlook is fairly encouraging. In pharmaceuticals, much of the growth to date has rested on the enormous success of one product, the heart drug Tenormin. This will create a problem for the late 1980s, but the group has some new products, across a fair range of therapeutic areas, to take Tenormin's place.

In pesticides and herbicides, the market has always been very competitive. The key, though, lies in successful innovation. ICI's record here is excellent, and likely to stay that way.

Outside of those two large growth areas, the prospects for specialism are more fragmented. There is some growth to come in paints, particularly in water-based paints for the car industry. In advanced composite materials—carbon fibre products, and the like—the group's position has been much strengthened by the Beatrice acquisition in the US.

That apart, the future is a

A good record for punching its weight around the world

little murky, particularly since the big chemical companies around the world are all searching for specialty products at the same time.

But ICI has a good record for punching its weight in the world industry. It is worth reflecting just how unlikely it is that the group should exist in its present form; based in the UK, operating in a century-old industry, and still among the world's largest.

The Americans have the advantage of a huge home market, and the Germans have an unrivalled tradition of academic research and training in chemicals. ICI has neither—nor does it have the base of the British Empire which supported it in the old days—but it still bangs on. It is a remarkable record of survival, and one which looks like continuing.

Queensland dispute

Power politics Down Under

By Michael Thompson-Noel in Sydney

THE QUEENSLAND power dispute, which recently blacked out Australia's Sunshine State, has eased temporarily. But further thunder of recrimination rolls on, indicating a possibly bleak future for industrial relations in resource-rich Queensland plus potential federal Labor Government in Canberra.

As always, the man at the centre of the turmoil was Queensland's eccentric Premier, Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, now 74, who rules his domain—and his National Party cabinet—with a rod of iron.

In Sir Joh's view his confrontation with the states electricity workers earlier this month was a necessary battle against "union law-breakers" hell-bent on "industrial thuggery."

The cost of the dispute, says Sir Joh, was more than A\$600m (£396m) plus 6,000 lost jobs and a swathe of bankruptcies.

"There were threats to kill me," claims the Premier. "They don't worry me. But the scum that the Opposition apparently support also threatened to kill my grandchildren, to blow my home, to blow up my office."

A radically different version of events is offered by Mr Neville Warrburton, a former assistant secretary of the Electrical Trades Union (ETU) and now leader of the Queensland Labor Party.

In Mr Warrburton's view Sir Joh's handling of the power crisis demonstrated a willingness to "ransom the already shaky economy of Queensland in a bloody-minded attempt to destroy a free trade union movement."

At present, the lights are on in Queensland, and power is flowing. But key sectors like the coal industry were idle until Thursday.

The move that sparked the latest dispute in Queensland's power industry was a bid by the South-East Queensland Electricity Board (SEQEB) to utilise contract (outside) labour during peak periods as a cost-saving measure. The ETU was guaranteed full consultation, security of employment, and no forced sackings.

On February 7, a state of emergency was declared. Four days later 900 striking ETU workers were dismissed, prompting the power station operators to cut output by 50 per cent, necessitating strict rationing.

and taking Queensland—says Sir Joh—"to the very brink of union anarchy."

At the height of the dispute, the trade union movement in Queensland tried to isolate the State Government. Oil for Parliament House was cut off, as was fuel for government aircraft, liquor supplies for government departments, and some postal and phone services. Thousands of workers in other industries were affected—the only consolation being that Queensland was sweltering in sultry summer weather.

Unscathed, Sir Joh at one point challenged all trade unions to strike. "Let's get them all out. Let's get it to a good boil. The unions will be gone over like a dinner."

Power was finally restored on February 22 when Sir Joh offered to take the 900 sacked SEQEB workers back, provided they signed a no-strike agreement.

Has Sir Joh won the day with his carrot and bludgeon? Has he curbed the power of greedy trade unions? Or is Mr Warrburton right when he says that Sir Joh and his right-wing regime are playing politics while the economy founders—with business and industry squashed in between?

The cost has been great. Coal losses so far total more than A\$120m with Australia's reputation as an unreliable supplier once more confirmed. Unemployment is 11.1 per cent. Australia's highest. It has had more bankruptcies than other states. Private investment is down, against the national trend. There is a home building slump and a 30 per cent drop in engineering construction turnover.

At present the only thing clear in Queensland is that at 74 years of age, Sir Joh's lifelong war against Socialism and the unions is by no means over. Far from it; he is raising the stakes.

Unfortunately for Queensland, the state's economy is already on the ropes because of low farm and mineral prices. Unemployment is 11.1 per cent. Australia's highest. It has had more bankruptcies than other states. Private investment is down, against the national trend. There is a home building slump and a 30 per cent drop in engineering construction turnover.

At present the only thing clear in Queensland is that at 74 years of age, Sir Joh's lifelong war against Socialism and the unions is by no means over. Far from it; he is raising the stakes.

Weekend Brief

Streamlined zoo proposals

THIS MONTH, the Zoological Society of London is to unveil its plans to rescue the faltering finances of the London Zoo, one of the world's oldest, and most famous animal collections. These plans will include a reduction in the 3,000 animals (not including fish and insects) which live in the 35-acre zoo, at the northern end of Regents Park.

Mr David Jones, the society's operations director, which also owns the zoo at Whipsnade in Bedfordshire, says: "We are not going to get rid of broad categories of animals. We just won't have so many types of species."

This means that all the bears, except the polar bears, are likely to go. Most, if not all, of the birds of prey will disappear, as will many of the species of owls and parrots. They will be simply homes in other zoos when they die. In addition, the zoo plans to redesign displays and improve landscaping to make its environment more appealing. New marketing campaigns and promotions can be expected. Cash raising schemes in the wake of the zoo's successful "Adopt an Animal" campaign are also planned.

The society, better known for the high quality of its scientific and educational work than for its ability to run a profitable leisure business, is suddenly displaying a sharper commercial cutting edge.

Hard decisions have been forced by dwindling attendances and mounting costs. Last year those combined to produce an operating loss at the society of around £2m. The zoo, like any other business which



Bear necessities—the Mappin Terrace

has fallen on hard times, "is having to make cuts and reorganise its resources."

"Big city zoos are expensive to run and the public do not want to see a vast 'stamp collection' of animals," says Mr Jones. "It

The savings are essential if London Zoo is to carry out a large backlog of repairs and renovation. Some structures like the Mappin Terrace—rising tiers of concrete which house the bears and other animals—are more than 60 years old and badly need restoring.

The terraces, which also contain the aquarium, are the zoo's most distinctive feature. Under the new plans they will be revamped and landscaped to a North American theme, maintaining only animals from that continent. The aquarium will be moved.

"Public attitudes and tastes have changed and we need new attractive designs at displays," says Jones. "People want to view animals in modern, airy, natural surroundings. Some of this work has already been done

the big cats' displays, for example—but there is a lot more to do. We are competing against other leisure activities which have grown rapidly during the past 20 years."

That the society is able to contemplate surgery at all, rather than call in the receivers, is due only to a rescue package of grants, worth £8m during the next 21 years, announced by the Government shortly before Christmas. The money is to cover operating losses and to help with the society's £2m overdraft. Only £1m is actually earmarked for capital investment, hence the need to achieve greater savings to free more cash for improvements.

The Government, however, has promised to match pound for pound, up to £750,000 a year, any money the zoo raises for capital investment. The scheme will be reviewed in April 1987. In return the Government expects a sharper commercial response from the society.

For much of its 159-year history, the society—started in

1826 by Sir Stamford Raffles, who founded the colony of Singapore—has been nurtured by the generosity of rich people and successful businesses. The small mammal house at London Zoo, for example, which may be the finest collection of its type, was donated by the late Sir Charles Clore. The Mappin Terrace were sponsored by Mappin and Webb the jewellers. However, public donations are not a stable source of finance and the zoo over the past 10 years has been unable to raise the money needed to secure its future. There was also a reluctance to accept donations while the society was threatened with insolvency.

Perhaps the biggest mistake the society made was to raise admission fees in 1981 to £3.50 an adult. This was a big factor in the sharp fall in attendances in the early 1980s.

Between 1971 and 1974 around 2m visitors annually paid to visit London Zoo. Between 1981 and 1984 that fell to just over 1m a year. Attendances, however, have recently recovered slightly to around 1.2m.

Last year the society appointed Mr John Boyer, former deputy chairman of Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, as its first chief executive.

Mr Boyer argues that the zoo's problems were not created by management's failure to recognise and respond to problems, but by the inadequacy of the society's budget which did not allow it to respond. "We have now been handed a financial lifeline and it is up to us to take full advantage of it. There are all sorts of things we can do in addition to new investment."

"We can look at schemes like block booking and special arrangements for business in the same way as companies hire boxes and take valuable contacts to soccer matches."

"Ultimately we depend upon the public and it will be up to them to decide what kind of zoo they want in London."

Contributors: Andrew Taylor

YOU HAVE 34 DAYS TO PAY LESS TAX, OR A YEAR OF PAYING TOO MUCH.

Tax Planning Ideas for the Individual

Make your consultation before April 1985

After April 5th, the number of opportunities for reducing your tax liabilities will be cut, at a stroke.

You could end up paying unnecessary tax for the whole financial year.

Worse still, unclaimed tax relief may be lost for good in certain circumstances.

Our booklet sets out a concise checklist of areas where you may be able to save money on tax.

Telephone Roger Bruce on 01-928 2000 for your copy.

Before April 5th it's free. After that it's worth nothing.

EW Ernst & Whinney
Accountants, Advisers, Consultants.

Becker House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU. Tel: 01-928 2000.

Checkpoint chuckles

EAST GERMANY's border controllers, long feared as the toughest in Eastern Europe, are cracking jokes with Western visitors these days.

The transformation of the once-stony-faced border officials who barked orders at tourists and searched every nook and cranny of their cars for forbidden newspapers is remarkable.

It has taken place against the background of greatly improved relations between East and West Germany in recent years, and a desire by the East German leadership to improve the country's tarnished image.

West Berliners and East Germans who entered the

presence of East German customs officials who methodically searched their wallets and purses and frequently asked them to explain names and telephone numbers listed in their address books.

One correspondent's sandwiches were once x-rayed while he was in transit through the country. During 1980 and 1981 when Solidarity was active in Poland East German customs officials treated travellers bound for that country through East Germany as agents of the "counter-revolution."

Poles avoided driving through East Germany to Western Europe even if it meant a circuitous trip via Sweden.

The grey-green uniforms of the passport officials reminded

foreign visitors from both East

service with its grim-faced men and women in bluish uniforms which evoked the greatest animosity.

Today, this is just a bad memory. East German border officials, who are employees of the Ministry of the Interior, have been instructed to be courteous to Westerners. Presto! They are now as polite as once they were offensive.

The border controllers exchange small talk with tourists and frequently tell the latest jokes to Western businessmen visiting East Berlin. Many regular visitors to the East German capital now find themselves being greeted like old friends at the border.

The other crossing points to East Germany have likewise improved vastly. An East German

official at the Cottbus

D-marks from a Westerner for a transit visa with the quip "For five marks you're in the game," a slogan from West German TV to promote the state lottery. Such flippancy might have been grounds for a court martial in the old days.

The general friendliness shown towards Westerners at the frontier has become a reliable barometer of relations between the two German states. If the border controllers were ordered to revert back to their brusque commands to Westerners and minute searches of their belongings it would be regarded as a sure sign of a new cold war between the two Germanys.

Contributors: Andrew Taylor

UK COMPANY NEWS

Lloyds to take up Royal Bank rights issue

Lloyds Bank has decided to take up its entitlement to shares in the recent rights issue announced by Royal Bank of Scotland. The announcement yesterday caused some surprise since Lloyds has an understanding with the bank's Office of Fair Trading to reduce its 21 per cent stake in the group.

However, a director commented that the company has "given the commitment to reduce our stake and we will honour that commitment, but we are not under any pressure of time and we thought this was the right thing to do."

He declined to say when Lloyds would reduce its stake, but he had considered it appropriate to take up its full rights entitlement.

Lloyds share price fell 13p to 540p yesterday.

Lloyds is entitled to just over 12m shares at 210p each, which will cost a total of £25.2m. The offer-for-four rights issue was announced last month to finance Royal Bank's £152m purchase of Charterhouse Japet, the merchant bank.

Lloyds agreed with the OFT last year to reduce its stake to 18.4 per cent within a reasonable period of time which has now been spelled out. The deal was struck as part of the complex arrangements under which the Royal Bank also agreed to sell its stake in Lloyds and Scottish Bank, the finance house in which Lloyds has an interest.

Talks fail for London & Strathclyde

Talks on a bid for London & Strathclyde Trust have failed for the second time since last November.

The Gartmore-managed trust said the potential bidder required irrevocable assurances covering a majority of the trust's assets as well as board recommendations, before launching a bid. It said the offer was well below asset value and therefore could not be recommended.

It was understood that the bidder was seeking the trust as a means of raising cash through a rights issue, and that the cash offer would have been around 93 per cent of asset value, compared with more normal levels for this type of bid at around 100 per cent.

The share price fell 10p to 153p, valuing the trust at £26.3m.

L & M 7% stake in London Trust

London and Manchester insurance group has disclosed a 7 per cent holding in London Trust, the investment trust which is now in discussions on management with the Crocker subsidiary — and all the banks will have enjoyed the benefits of buoyant consumer lending and attractive interest margins.

Basic returns averaged 10.4 per cent during the second half of 1984, a point-and-a-half above the average level for the first six months.

The bank has already reported strong growth in its Lombard North Central subsidiary and in its North American operations, while the group's banking has shown good improvement.

Provisions for bad debts will almost certainly be higher than in 1983 but — thanks to the group's limited exposure to the U.S. — assets that will be used with most of its operations.

Midland Bank, which reports a Wednesday, is in one respect the easiest of the banks to forecast and in another the most difficult. The group has already shown a clear indication of the likely damage from Crocker in the U.S. and has admitted that maintained dividend will not

ICI placing to part fund Beatrice

Imperial Chemical Industries yesterday made a £148.5m share placing to finance part of the cost of its \$750m (£699m) acquisition of Beatrice Chemical of the U.S. The Beatrice deal, first announced last December, was formally completed on Thursday.

The shares were placed at 825p, a discount of 10p to the closing price of the night before. U.S. investors, who currently own just over 16 per cent of ICI's equity, were not offered any of the new stock.

The company explained that under SEC regulations, the issue of further shares in the U.S. would have required "certain additional disclosures" which the group was not able to make in the time available. "Ideally, we

would have loved to open it up to everyone," ICI said. "We will be looking at our procedures for the future."

The balance of the cost of Beatrice will be met from cash and bank facilities. The group's gross liquidity currently stands at over £1bn, and net of short term borrowings at £680m. The 18m new shares being issued are close to the ceiling which ICI is allowed to issue without seeking permission of shareholders.

The placing puts to rest recent City rumours that ICI might be contemplating a rights issue to finance Beatrice. In view of chairman Mr John Harvey-Jones' declared conviction that ICI's share price is too low, there was mild surprise that the



Mr John Harvey-Jones, chairman of ICI... considers share price is too low.

group should consider equity financing at all. But at the pricing price the deal represents relatively cheap finance, given a forecast yield on the shares of around 6 per cent.

The group confirmed that Beatrice is still headed for sales of \$480m, pre-tax profits of \$75m and net profits of \$40m in the year to end-February 1985.

Initial responsibility for Beatrice will lie with Dr B. H. Lochenberg, who is principal executive officer for ICI's specialty chemicals worldwide and is based in the U.S. The central staff and management at Beatrice headquarters in Wilmington, Massachusetts will form a new company, ICI Specialty Chemicals Inc.

Four more property developers for BES

The wave of property developers seeking equity capital under the Business Expansion Scheme continued last week with the arrival of four ventures, adding to a combined total of £11.8m.

They bring to 14 the number of property developers to have made public announcements of BES share issues in February. If their offers are fully subscribed, they will have raised just over £58m between them.

The largest in the most recent batch is Palmerston Property

Developments, which is asking for up to £8m to develop commercial, industrial and retail buildings.

Its directors include Mr Brian Hill, chairman of Higgs & Hill, the international construction and development group. Mr Peter Archer, surveyor to the Lazard Property Unit Trust, and Mr Richard Seifert, senior partner of the architects R. Seifert & Partners. The chairman is Viscount de L'Isle, chairman of Property Growth Assurance Company.

Smithfield Developments is asking investors for up to £2m to refurbish and build properties for small businesses in the Smithfield area of central London. The directors believe that there is a strong demand for freehold property from creative and advertising businesses deterred by high rents in Covent Garden and nearby central locations. Noble Grossart has underwritten the minimum subscription of £400,000.

Roman Homes is aiming to raise up to £1m to finance the development of sheltered housing for the elderly. It has contracted to buy the lease of a 1.5 acre site near Llandudno, and the promoters have already committed £250,000 to the project.

Listing, which is attempting to raise BES money without a sponsor, is looking for up to £800,000 to buy a hotel near Leeds. The group is planning to buy more hotels in due course.

Nationwide Leisure full listing plan

Nationwide Leisure yesterday unveiled more than doubled its share price to 183p, against £401,000 and plans to graduate from the USM to a full listing.

The results mainly reflected the acquisition of the Neilson Leisure Group and the performance of the Park Homes Division.

Shareholders are being rewarded with a doubled dividend of 0.5p. Stated earnings per share trebled to 2.4p.

Mr V. M. Cobb, group chairman, said that the company is consulting its professional advisers about an early application for an admission to a full listing.

Nationwide, he says, has had a successful five-year record under the new management team and qualifies under Stock Exchange rules for the step up to a full listing.

At last night's close the shares were up 14p to 28p giving a market capitalisation of £3.6m. Group turnover for the year to end-October 1984 amounted to £18.8m, against £16.6m, generating operating profits of £1.03m compared with £382,000. Interest charges came to £190,000 (receivable £19,000) and the tax charge was £100,000 (£189,000), leaving a net result of £583,000 (£202,000).

Mr Cobb says that Neilson Winter Sports holidays produced an excellent sales performance, which has been running at levels in excess of 70 per cent above UK, year-on-year, and more than 40 per cent cumulatively ahead of last year's bookings.

Beazer companies lift Braham Millar to £0.47m

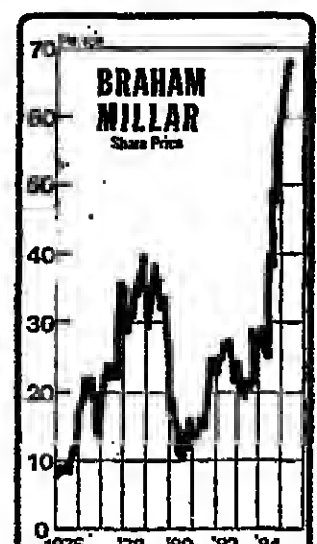
INCLUDING £121,000 from the three Beazer engineering companies with effect from October 29, taxable profits of Braham Millar Group, mechanical engineering subsidiary of C. Beazer from June last, amounted to £468,000 for the nine months ended December 31 1984.

This is compared with £207,000 for the six months to September 30 1983 and £480,000 on a pro-forma basis for the six months ended December 31 1984, which includes the three Beazer companies from July 1 1984.

The directors say that the enlarged group holds a substantial order book and is beginning to benefit from greater flexibility and the wider expertise now available to it. Trading in the current half year is up to expectations and the directors look forward with confidence to the outcome of the year.

Turnover for the nine-month period amounted to £10.04m (£4.55m for the six months to September 30 1983). Tax charge was £202,000, against £108,000, after which earnings were shown as 2.03p (0.5p).

The interim dividend is stepped up to 0.60p (0.4p) net per 10p share — last year's final payment was 0.7p.



shown as 2.03p (0.5p). The interim dividend is stepped up to 0.60p (0.4p) net per 10p share — last year's final payment was 0.7p.

L & G bonus rates held

Legal & General, Britain's second largest life company yesterday announced unchanged reversionary bonus rates for 1984. Thus on assurances, the rate remains at 4.3 per cent of the sum assured and 5.8 per cent of attaching bonuses, while on self-employed pension contracts the rate remains at 5.50 per cent of the basic benefit and attaching bonuses.

The benefits of last year's investment performance are coming in higher than expected, with bonuses paid on claims arising this year. On ordinary assurances it is being lifted from

67.5 per cent to 75 per cent of attaching bonuses. On the cashholder savings plan, the terminal bonus rises from 50 per cent to 55 per cent, while on the self-employed pension contract it rises from 65 per cent to 72.5 per cent of attaching bonuses.

Mr Ted Tilly, L & G's life and pensions director, warned that if both interest rates and inflation rates were low in the future then it might follow that life companies generally would have to cut bonus rates. But the returns in real terms would be higher than received during periods of high inflation.

Bunzl sells stake in Brammer

By Paul Ham

Bunzl, the pulp and paper merchant, has ended speculation that it might mount a takeover bid for Brammer, the distributor of ball bearings and electronic components, by selling its 4.6 per cent stake in the company for a profit of £1.5m.

Bunzl's shares shot up 18p yesterday to close at 433p, while Brammer's fell 11p to close at 306p.

Mr James White, managing director of Bunzl, said Brammer's share-price had reached a level "where it made more sense to have the cash rather than the stock." Bunzl sold off 1.88m shares in Brammer at 215p each during the week. Bunzl bought its stake in Brammer in September last year.

Mr John Hedd, executive chairman of Brammer, said yesterday there was never any commercial compatibility or logic in a takeover bid by Bunzl.

It's been made clear to them from the start that we were totally antagonistic towards a takeover," he said. Bunzl yesterday received the £54m proceeds from its rights issue, announced in January. At that time the company forecast pre-tax profit of £27m for 1984, up from £17m, along with a dividend payment of 7.5p, up from 5.5p.

Compo

With profits from the sale of the Worthing Development of £266,453 boosting last year's figures, taxable profits of Compo Holdings, property investment and development company, dropped from £266,266 to £202,480 for the six months ended September 25 1984.

BTS joins USM ranks with value of £4.2m

By Stefan Wagstyl

BTS Group, a West Midlands-based company mainly engaged in making remould tyres, is coming to the USM with a market capitalisation of £4.2m.

Smith Keen and Cutler, broker, is placing 1.23m shares, equal to 23.4 per cent of the equity. The shares are all being sold by the company's founding family—Mr Horace Stote, who set up the business in 1962, and his sons Mr Alan Stote and Mr Roger Stote.

The company began as a small tyre retreading plant and later switched to making remoulds. In recent years it has built up a chain of 10 retail outlets, trading under the name Monarch Motoring Centres, and two years ago started making batteries as well as remould tyres.

Profits were held back by the recession in the early 1980s, declining from £334,000 in the year to March 1980 to £240,000 in 1983, despite steady increases in sales to £3.9m. But in 1984, profits leapt to £415,000 on sales of £5.2m, and increased to £262,000 in the first half of the current year.

For the year to the end of this month, the company is forecasting profits of not less than £250,000 on sales of £7.5m. Of an estimated tax charge of 23 per cent, earnings per share would be 7.68p, giving a multiple of 10.68 on the placing price of 52p.

A final dividend of 1p net is forecast. The indicated annualised gross yield is 9.2 per cent. The company said that a USM quotation would give it greater flexibility in financing future growth, including possible acquisitions.

Mr Alan Stote, chairman and chief executive, said that while the market for tyres and batteries was competitive, the company's prospects were good because "fast-fit" motoring centres, which accounted for most of BTS's customers, were taking a growing share of the market.

comment

As a company BTS Group is profitable and sound, with an enthusiastic management flush with ideas on developing the business. As a new issue, however, it is in danger of being overpriced. A multiple of nearly 11 looks too demanding for a company operating in such cut-throat markets. Admittedly, the company's main customers are fast-fit motoring centres which are winning market share from traditional garages. But these centres are new replacement tyres at a discount rate. It seems inevitable that the company's growth will be limited by motorists' preference for new tyres, which with design improvements, are lasting longer than they did 10 years ago.

Unilever in office equipment sale

UAC International, a subsidiary of Unilever, is to sell BEAM office equipment to Office International, a subsidiary of the British Commonwealth Shipping Company, for an undisclosed sum.

BEAM, which is believed to be a turnover of around £15m, employs about 400 people and operates a UK-wide network of 20 branches distributing and servicing office machinery, furniture and stationery.

UAC said the subsidiary was being sold because it was peripheral to the company's main trading interests in Africa.

Australians allow BTR to proceed with Nylex takeover

BTR Hopkins, the Australian subsidiary of the BTR Group, has been given approval by the Australian Federal Treasury to proceed with the \$390m (£299m) takeover of Nylex Group, the plastics extrusions and mouldings business of ACI International.

The company is to pay \$80m in shares and cash for Nylex and take over a \$30m loan outstanding to the company. Hopkins first announced in December that it planned to buy Nylex.

Hopkins will raise nearly \$35m of the purchase price by means of a one-for-two rights issue of 12.48m ordinary 50 cents shares at 52.50p per share.

The issue has been underwritten except for the shares to be taken up by BTR through its wholly-owned subsidiary, BTR Australia, which holds 67.2 per cent of Hopkins shares.

BTR plans to subscribe for 6.8m Hopkins shares or 81 per cent of its entitlement to allow

Australian investors to take a larger stake in Hopkins shares. Hopkins has plastics, rubber, belting, hoses and engineering businesses. And it is believed to have opted for Nylex as a means of establishing a more stable cash flow than is provided by its resources-oriented business, which generates annual sales of over \$100m.

Hopkins estimates that pre-tax profits for 1984 will have exceeded \$16m. It continues the final dividend, will be not less than 7 cents paid as an interim. Sales of the expanded group are expected to approach \$400m in 1985 and net funds employed by the year end will be about \$116m, of which about \$35m will represent borrowings.

The board says it is confident the enlarged group will continue to enjoy prosperous growth. It expects at least to maintain the current rate of annual dividend on the enlarged share capital.

MINING NEWS

Compromise agreed over OK Tedi future

BY KENNETH MARSTON, MINING EDITOR

THE threatened closure of the \$1.6bn (£1.05bn) OK Tedi open-pit copper and gold mine in Papua New Guinea appears now to have been averted.

Mr Francis Pusal, the Papua New Guinea Minerals and Energy minister, said that the Broken Hill Proprietary and Amoco Minerals—badly verbally agreed to compromise proposals for the future development of the mine put forward by the government.

He said that the agreement was for OK Tedi Mining to go ahead with the construction of a permanent tailings (mine waste) dam and a single copper processing line. Construction of a second copper unit and additional hydroelectric power facilities would be subject to an economic viability test being applied at the end of 1985.

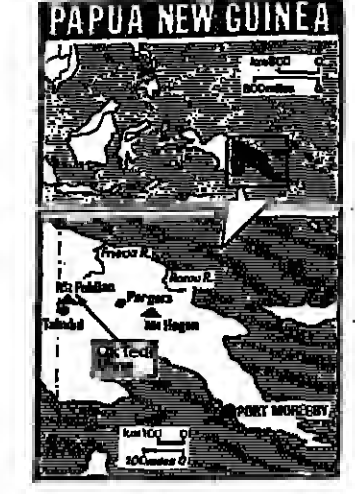
In the meantime, gold production would continue. Mr Pusal added that a written document had been presented to the mining company setting out detailed terms and conditions. It was confident it would be quickly signed, paying the way for Cabinet endorsement.

S. African gold dividends increased

SHARPLY increased interim dividends for the year to September 30 1984 are declared by the Gencor group's South African gold mines in the Bantuan area, but the payments fall short of some market expectations.

Witwatersrand, for example, is declaring an interim of 230 cents (105p) against forecasts of up to 260 cents, though it compares well with the previous interim of 177 cents.

Kinross also shows up well



next week. The company could then be issued with three to four month extensions of its currently suspended mining licence. During this time a supplementary agreement setting out detailed terms and conditions on an infrastructure programme and the economic viability tests would be drawn up, he added.

with 450 cents against 37 cents a year ago, as does Unisul with 75 cents against 47 cents. Bracken is increasing its latest interim to 40 cents from 23 cents while Leslie's payment is 45 cents against 17 cents.

1984 1983
March Sept March Sept
cents cents cents cents
interim interim final final
Bracken ... 40 33 23 27
Kinross ... 150 108 87 109
Leslie ... 45 17 20
Unisul ... 75 54 47 52
Witwatersrand ... 230 205 177 225

DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

	Current payment	Date	Corresponding payment	Total last year	Total this year
Braham Millar	0.60p	April 15	0.4	3.42	5.05
Derek Crouch	3.7p	—	—	nil	0.25
Jayplant	0.25p	—	—	0.23	0.25
Nationwide Leisure	0.5p	—	—	—	—

UAC said the subsidiary was being sold because it was peripheral to the company's main trading interests in Africa.

Results due—Big four clearing banks and composite insurers dominate

STOCKBROKING analysts are playing an uncharacteristic unanimity about the likely 1984 results of the four London clearing banks, all of which are due to report next week.

Each bank's profits from international operations will have been flattered in sterling terms by the strength of the dollar — the exception being Midland which will report operating losses from its Crocker subsidiary — and all the banks will have enjoyed the benefits of buoyant consumer lending and attractive interest margins.

Basic returns averaged 10.4 per cent during the second half of 1984, a point-and-a-half above the average level for the first six months.

NatWest

National Westminster Bank is the bank reporting on Tuesday with what may well be the highest profit growth of the four. Analysts are expecting a full year figure of between £22m and £26m pre-tax, up from £20m in 1983.

The bank has already reported strong growth in its Lombard North Central subsidiary and in its North American operations, while the group's banking has shown good improvement.

Provisions for bad debts will almost certainly be higher than in 1983 but — thanks to the group's limited exposure to the U.S. — assets that will be used with most of its operations.

Midland

Midland Bank, which reports a Wednesday, is in one respect the easiest of the banks to forecast and in another the most difficult. The group has already shown a clear indication of the likely damage from Crocker in the U.S. and has admitted that maintained dividend will not

Analysts expect provisions of around £575m to exceed operating profits by perhaps £40m from the book profit on the sale of a Crocker building turning the loss into a profit of between £20m and £30m.

Yet Midland has considerable scope to bump up that figure with other profits of an exceptional nature and it would not be altogether surprising to see the group report a pre-tax profit of over £100m.

Barclays

Barclays Bank announces its results on Thursday and there is just an outside chance that it could become the first British bank to report pre-tax profits of £70m.

The consensus, however, is for figures of around £67.5m, which compares with a profit of £55.7m in 1983.

The bank has already reported some gloomy results from South Africa which will look even worse on translation into sterling, and that will mitigate what should be a very strong performance from the retail operations.

Lloyds

Bringing up the tail is Lloyds Bank, which is still suffering the consequences of its heavy Latin American exposure. Pre-tax profits of between £45m and £47.5m are widely expected, an increase of roughly 10 per cent on the £41.6m reported for 1983.

Lloyds Bank International will have probably have made next to no profit after tax in the second half, so Lloyds will be depending heavily on the higher domestic commission tariff, introduced in June, and stable level of UK provisions for

THE FACT that most of Consolidated Gold Field's gold mining operations are in South Africa makes the relatively low dollar price an important element in next Tuesday's announcement of interim results.

Current exchange rates mean that the company is getting near record prices for its gold there, so Rand earnings from this precious metal will have an especial lustre, particularly as production has been creeping up to an annual rate of around 140 tonnes.

For this first half, pre-tax profits could well be up from £43.1m to around £52m, with the recent B&H & Portland acquisition helping the tax charge.

British Petroleum

A continuation of British Petroleum's strong earnings growth should be reported in

next Thursday's announcement of fourth quarter profits.

In spite of lower oil prices, the results so far this year have reflected increased upstream contributions which have been enough to offset a flat performance by Sohio and chemicals. But there have been better production volumes by Sohio in the last quarter and royalties from Prudhoe Bay will have been resumed.

Over on the European refining side of the business, the fact that the dollar did not move notably during the period should have helped margins. Analysts are also expecting a fairly large extraordinary charge below the line to reflect rationalisation costs in Germany and France, a reassessment of UK deferred tax provision and a write down of the Australian pickle mine.

Overall, best estimates put the

full-year net income figure at around £1.4bn, against £865m.

Unilever

A healthier European market and the strength of the U.S. dollar make up the main impetus behind Unilever's expected £575m pre-tax profit, due out on Tuesday, compared with £768m the previous year.

While Unilever is said to have reaped £30m from the dollar's strength, some of this would be lost to the high launch costs of new products in North America which brought the growth rate in that market down from 20 per cent to 8 per cent in the third quarter.

Nonetheless, the food giant progressed overall. It eclipsed its sleepy image in the City with last year's dramatic (for Unilever) £388m takeover of Brooke Bond which, once swallowed and fully digested, should push 1985's result through the

11m mark. Brooke Bond will not be included in the 1984 result.

Cadbury's

Cadbury Schweppes, the confectionery and soft drinks group, finally found the right market conditions in September to raise £74m in the U.S. by offering American Depositary Receipts to U.S. investors. The offer was well received, and Cadbury's intends to push the marketing of major brands heavily in the U.S. in the current year.

The group is expected on Thursday to announce pre-tax profits of around £155m for the year to December, including several million pounds of currency benefits from the U.S. and Australia.

In the UK, the confectionery side is thought to have had a reasonable year seeing some improvements in market share and margins while drinks are expected to report a better second half.

Company	Announced due	Dividend (p)	Last year	This year
Anglo American Gold Investments	Friday	4.0	50.0	—
Anglo American Industrial Corp	Friday	55.0	125.0	55.0
Barclays	Thursday	11.5	12.5	12.5
Barlow Holdings	Thursday	1.0	3.0	1.0
Bladen Industries	Wednesday	3.2	2.5	3.5
British Petroleum	Thursday	7.0	72.0	10.0
British Vita	Monday	2.6336	2.7277	3.0
Bryant, Derek Group	Monday	2.0	4.0	2.35
BSE International	Thursday	1.5	2.9	1.8
Cadbury Schweppes	Thursday	1.5	2.9	1.8
Child Health Research Trust	Monday	4.5	6.95	8.95
Commercial Union Assurance	Thursday	1.5	2.2	1.8
Crest	Thursday	0.63	1.58	0.63
Davies and Mott	Thursday	1.8	5.2	1.0
Federated House	Thursday	1.8	5.2	

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S
COMPANY NEWS

Take-over bids and deals

Activity on the domestic bids and deals front was at a fairly low ebb this week, but in Hong Kong, the Wheelock Marden auction intensified with Mr Y. K. Pao's Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf increasing its offer to HK\$7.40 for every Wheelock A share and 74 cents for every B share. The latest bid values Wheelock at HK\$3.50 and tops the offer made a week ago by Tan Sri Khoo's Fawcett of HK\$7.0 for each A share and 70 cents for the B shares. East Asia Warburg, advisers to Wheelock, issued a further statement advising shareholders not to sell out. Local analysts feel that the auction is far from over.

Quadrax Holdings, a privately-owned investment banking group, has emerged as the successful bidder for R. P. Martin, the foreign exchange and currency broker. Last month, Martin announced that it was in talks with various parties, including the management of the company. Quadrax is bidding 450p per share cash and a majority of Martin shareholders have already agreed to accept. These include the 45 per cent held by the German voting trust representing the interests of Bierbaum, the Düsseldorf broker with which Martin merged in 1981. The £44m deal has Bank of England approval and Martin's status as a recognised broker will not be affected.

The Times Vener, which is controlled by the Berman family, received a bid approach. The furniture manufacturer warned that any resulting offer would fall well short of last Monday's closing price of 37p. The price has slipped to 33p pending developments.

Company	Value of bid per share**	Price before bid	Value of bid	Bidder
Prices in pence unless otherwise indicated.				
Banco Inds	781	84	65	4.30 CH Industries
Bonushond	318	28	23	1.08 Promotions Hse
Booker McConnell	2395	242	259	298.67 Dee Corp
Butterfield-Hrvy	277	264	224	3.21 Technology Inc
Dunlop	211	44	31	31.28 BTR
E of Scot Onshore	11	91	66	11 Ind Fin & Inv Co
Elson & Robbins	90155	84	68	8.96 Hartons Group
Foster Bros	185	206	138	86.64 Ward White
Haden	2407	303	232	37.18 Trafalgar House
Hoskins & Hirst	3508	348	270	9.51 Scottish Heritage
Hurst (Charles)	2007	190	190	4.32 Garvagh Secs
Initial	5528	523	533	316.24 BET
Lake & Elliot	807	77	64	7.95 Suter
Leech (Wm)	1731	175	134	25.95 Beazer (C.H.)
Lon & McRae	91	91	104	2.91, Amal Estates
Manor National	1351	121	13	2.35 Bramall (C.D.)
Martin (R.P.)	450*	435	420	43.68 Quadrex
Pauls	3343	335	253	104.90 Harmsen & Crrsd
Petroler	58*	70	50	9.06 Clyde Petroleum
Praet (F.)	78*	77	43	3.14 600 Group
Seccombe, Marshall	440*	430	320	7.04 Citicorp
String Guarantee	691	68	328	248.46 F & O
TMG Group	1251	85	77	1.07 Smurfit (J.)
Total	70*	72	63	124.03 Entrad Corp
Trident TV Unit	2495	240	209	3.64 Pleasurama
Trident TV Unit	2571	240	209	110.24 Pleasurama
Unibond	2251	217	155	13.21 Beecham
Websters Group	1455	133	140	23.94 Octopus Publishing
Whittington	333	33	22	15.30 Alken Hume

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Company	Year	Pre-tax profit	Earnings	Dividends
per share (p)				
Aaronite Group	Oct	701	(634)	9.0
British Vending	Dec	587	(410)	6.1
Adams & Gibson	Nov	654	(624)	—
Ault & Wiborg	Dec	1,120	(207)	1.0
Barrow Hepburn	Dec	1,680	(1,587)	—
Bibby, J.	Dec	21,500	(18,534)	13.9
Cowie, T.	Dec	2,290	(1,130)	10.4
Dewey Warren	Dec	1,180	(734)	14.7
Fisons	Dec	48,300	(31,300)	10.5
Good Relations	Dec	1,550	(877)	9.9
ICI	Dec	1,030,000	(619,000)	98.2
Keen & Scott	Dec	10,090	(5,470)	8.0
Ladies Pride	Nov	282	(228)	—
Marley	Dec	33,140	(23,180)	—
Malpina, A.	Dec	22,640	(19,520)	45.4
Microvitec	Dec	2,640	(2,510)	5.8
Miss World Grp	Dec	5	(15)	0.9
Neil & Spencer	Nov	657	(585)	3.2
Olives Paper Mills	Dec	149	(38)	—
Padang Senang	Sept	245	(134)	2.3
Ratliffe (G. Br)	Dec	2,040	(31)	27.7
Renters	Dec	74,300	(35,200)	10.9
Saga Holidays	Dec	2,580	(2,440)	9.2
STC	Dec	140,800	(138,300)	23.2
Vantona Virella	Nov	21,140	(12,050)	39.3
Vickers	Dec	30,800	(19,500)	28.6
Williams Hides	Dec	1,920	(78)	12.10
Williams, R.	Nov	167	(153)	1.9

INTERIM STATEMENTS

Company	Half-year to	Pre-tax profit	Interim dividends
per share (p)			
Amstrad	Dec	9,530	(5,320)
Apex Properties	Sept	295	(274)
Cent Microwave	Dec	220	(201)
Don Bros Dist	Nov	1,800	(899)
Douglas, Robert	Sept	295L	(200)
Eleco Hides	Dec	810	(761)
FTI Group	Nov	810	(674)
Intec	Sept	21	(140)
InterEurope Tech	Dec	626	(499)
Jackson, W.	Oct	880	(610)
Peter Higgs	Sept	619	(258)
Peters, Michael	Dec	338	(253)
Ramair Textiles	Nov	588	(348)
Spectros	Dec	789	(—)
Stothert & Pitt	Dec	139L	(317)
Telefusion	Oct	367L	(1,250)
United Glass	Dec	8,660	(14,440)
Watsons	Sept	888	(607)

(Figures in parentheses are for the corresponding period.)
*Dividends are shown net pence per share, except where otherwise indicated. †For 15 months. ‡For previous 16 months.
L.Loss.

Rights Issues

Barrow Hepburn Group—To raise £2.54m through a one for four rights issue at 39p per share.
Bibby, J.—To raise £27.7m through a one for eight rights issue at 225p per share.
Fisons—To raise £94.5m through a one for five rights issue at 245p per share.

Offers for sale, placings and introductions

Mid-Southern Water Company—Offer for sale by tender of £8.25m 9 per cent redeemable preference stock 1990 at a minimum tender price of par.
Mid-Sussex Water Company—Issue of £3.5m 12 per cent redeemable debenture stock 2010.
Pepe Group—USM offer for sale of 5.5m shares at 100p per share.

Taiwan arrests Tenth Credit chief

BY ROBERT KING IN TAIPEI

THE TAIWAN police yesterday arrested Mr Tsai Chen-Chou, head of high Cathay Plastics and Tenth Credit Co-Operative—two financially troubled companies. Mr Tsai, who is a member of the Taiwan parliament, was detained shortly after his immunity as a member of the legislature was removed by the 73-member body.

The authorities have charged Mr Tsai with issuing 781 bad cheques valued at NT\$ 440m (US\$ 22m) for forgery, illegal endorsement of cheques and the channelling of funds from Tenth Credit to other companies in the widely spread family corporate empire. Mr Tsai's father, Wan-Chue, has also been charged with issuing dishonoured cheques totalling NT\$ 830m in value, although he has not been arrested.

For the last two weeks Mr Tsai's various companies have

been besieged by thousands of creditors seeking payment for cheques issued to them. His debts are estimated to run to more than US\$250m.

Over the past few weeks disclosures by the government of leading irregularities at Tenth Credit, as well as announcements by Mr Tsai that Cathay Plastics—a part of one of Taiwan's largest family-run groups—could not pay its debts, have caused panic among thousands of small creditors and foreign bankers. They fear that the trouble might spread to other connected companies.

Foreign bankers held an emergency meeting yesterday morning to discuss the developments and their implications for the banks. While foreign bank exposure in Cathay Plastics amounts to only about US\$12m, loans outstanding to Cathay Investment and Trust

Corporation as well as other companies run by Mr Tsai's brother Mr Tsai Chen-Nan, could be as high as US\$200m, one banker said.

As the two may have been guaranteeing one another's loans, Cathay Investment could well be sucked into the debacle and in turn pull down other firms in the group. Worried bankers say privately that this "worst case" outcome is likely unless the government steps in to support Cathay Investment and so prevents knock-on problems.

Over the past eight days 15 officials of Tenth Credit and Cathay Plastics have been arrested.

The troubles at the two companies have had side-effects as well. For one, Mr Tsai's arrest is an acute embarrassment for the ruling Nationalist Party which put him up as a candi-

date for parliament in 1983. For another it calls into question the effectiveness of the oversight functions of the Finance Ministry—since officials admit that leading irregularities at Tenth Credit have been going on for some years.

Members of the Control Yuan, which acts as a watchdog over the government, have begun investigating possible negligence by Finance Ministry personnel in allowing matters to get out of hand. One member of Parliament has called for the resignation of Mr Loh Jen-Kong, the current Finance Minister, and his predecessor, Mr Hsu Li-Teh, now Economic Affairs Minister.

Small creditors stand to lose heavily by the company's troubles. Since the disclosures of Cathay Plastics' difficulties, thousands of individual creditors have besieged offices of sub-



Loh Jen-kong, Minister of Finance, resignation demanded.

sidaries demanding to be repaid. Some of these have only promissory notes or post-dated cheques as security. Returns of 24 to 30 per cent per annum to such creditors appear to have played a large part in Mr Tsai's woes.

Holmes à Court in Asarco move

BY MICHAEL THOMPSON-NOEL IN SYDNEY

MR ROBERT HOLMES A COURT, the Perth businessman, has snapped up 10 per cent of Asarco, the struggling U.S. mining concern, in what may prove another colourful and ambitious foray into natural resources.

Asarco is a major producer of silver, zinc and copper and owns 44 per cent of MIM Holdings, one of Australia's biggest mining houses. MIM in turn owns 18.2 per cent of Asarco. In 1984 the U.S. company made a net loss of US\$ 306m.

Mr Holmes à Court has acquired 2.85m Asarco shares in a discreet buying operation spread over the last 60 days when the price varied between US\$17.625 a share and US\$23.25. At Thursday's closing price of \$22.875 the Asarco stake would be worth \$64.74m. The share purchases were made

via Weeks Petroleum, a Bermuda-based subsidiary of Bell Resources, the energy and mining offshoot of Mr Holmes à Court's master company, Bell Group.

The Asarco manoeuvre could be a straight share play. Alternatively, it is seen by some as the prelude to an all out raid on Asarco, or MIM—or both. Analysis says it is a good time to buy into copper, and that Asarco's open share register and depressed share price could prove the springboard for yet another determined move by Mr Holmes à Court into the depressed energy and mining sectors.

Bell Resources has also exercised its option to acquire an additional 5 per cent stake in two massive Queensland coal consortia, at a cost of US\$125m,

taking its total stake to 10 per cent. The purchase was made from General Electric of the U.S.

Mr Holmes à Court believes that many mining and resource stocks—particularly in base metals—are attractively undervalued. His main target in the Asarco share play may ultimately be MIM's massive Mount Isa copper ore body in north west Queensland, rather than MIM's costly coal interests, or Asarco itself. But given his record, he would just as easily settle for a smart resale and suitable profits.

At present MIM has a market capitalisation of some \$1.3bn (US\$627m) compared with US\$700m for Asarco. On these prices the U.S. company's stake in MIM is worth just over US\$400m.

ABN better than expected in second half

By Laura Raun in Amsterdam

ALGEMENE BANK Nederland (ABN), the largest bank in the Netherlands, posted a 4.5 per cent higher profit of Fl 401.8m (\$106.3m) last year in a sharp reversal of earlier forecasts of a decline. Growth was achieved thanks to a buoyant second half, particularly in commissions and the securities business.

Earnings had plunged 25 per cent midway or sharply narrower interest-rate margins and a decline in foreign business.

Lower taxes both in the Netherlands and overseas and smaller general provisions also contributed to the modest full-time rise from the Fl 384.5m seen in 1983.

After a cut in interim dividend, a higher final leaves the total unchanged at Fl 26. Total income edged up only 1.5 per cent to Fl 4bn last year from Fl 3.9bn the previous year as domestic interest-rate margins shrunk. Lending growth in the Netherlands was too low to offset the tighter margins. Overseas, higher costs offset an increase.

Loan-loss provisions in 1984 amounted to Fl 625m, down 3.8 per cent from 1983, which was a peak year for Dutch banks' general contingency funds. Healthier corporate profits in the Netherlands allowed a decline in provisions for domestic credit risks.

Consafe slides and warns of loss in current year

BY DAVID BROWN IN STOCKHOLM

PRE-TAX PROFITS plunged sharply at Consafe, the world's largest owner of offshore accommodation platforms, in 1984 due to poor market conditions which are expected to persist and produce a loss this year.

The pre-tax result declined from SKr 408m to SKr 29m (\$3.07m) in comparable terms, although the 1984 figure excludes SKr 83m from changes in depreciation policy.

The decline follows a much lower rate of vessel capacity use and a lack of income from ship sales in 1984. Income from ship sales inflated the 1983 figure by SKr 175m. Turnover in 1984 was SKr 1.04bn.

In a management shake up,

Mr J. Christer Ericsson the present chairman and founder of Consafe, is to return as managing director following the departure of Mr Lars Larsson.

A significant market upswing is not expected until 1986 or 1987, the group reports. The board has again chosen to omit a dividend this year.

Consafe is considering switching to a Norwegian flag this year in order to gain greater access to that country's large offshore market. It has already bought a small company quoted on the Oslo Bourse and has merged it with its Norwegian subsidiary Consafe A/S as a first step. A share issue of up to SKr 150m could follow.

Gambro dives to SKr 23m

BY OUR STOCKHOLM CORRESPONDENT

GAMBRO, the Swedish manufacturer of kidney dialysis machines acquired late last year by Sonesson, saw pre-tax profits for 1984 dropped well below earlier revised forecasts, to SKr 23m (\$2.4m)—from the SKr 156m achieved in 1983—on 15 per cent higher sales of SKr 1.45bn.

The company has undertaken a major administrative and management shake-up since its previously fast growth rate was checked by soaring costs. It has already announced plans to

cut the workforce—mainly white-collar personnel—by 10 per cent.

Gambro also plans to hive off its long-term research and development work into a new company, in which both it and Leo/Ferrosan—another Sonesson subsidiary—will take a one-third stake.

These measures will save the company an estimated SKr 80m this year, it says. The dividend is unchanged at SKr 0.32 per share.

Goldsmith ponders joining Icahn in bid for Phillips

BY WILLIAM HALL IN NEW YORK

SIR JAMES GOLDSMITH, the Anglo-French financier, is considering joining forces with Mr Carl Icahn, the Wall Street financier who is planning a hostile bid for Phillips Petroleum, the embattled U.S. oil company.

Sir James was said to be on holiday yesterday but sources close to Mr Icahn said that Drexel Burnham, Mr Icahn's investment banking adviser, was in discussions with Sir James's representatives with a view to raising additional finance for the \$4.2bn hostile tender offer.

Mr Icahn has raised \$1.5bn so far and his ability to recruit the support of Sir James would go a long way towards improving his credibility on Wall Street, where there is still some doubt that he can raise the necessary finance to proceed with his bid.

The news of Sir James's interest in joining the Phillips' raiding party will put further

pressure on Phillips to "sweeten" the terms of its recapitalisation plan which is widely believed to have been defeated.

Phillips will announce the results of the shareholders' vote on the plan on Monday. The group needed to win shareholder approval of the recapitalisation plan so that it could insulate itself from unwelcome takeovers. Wall Street analysts now believe that the company has boxed itself into a corner and is rapidly running out of options.

It could seek out a friendly "white knight" in the form of an oil company to save it from Mr Icahn, or it could sweeten the terms of its recapitalisation plan sufficiently to win Mr Icahn's support.

Alternatively, it could elect to go private through a leveraged buyout. Phillips shares rose \$1 to \$49 in early trading yesterday.

Strong first quarter rise at Toronto-Dominion Bank

BY BERNARD SIMON IN TORONTO

TORONTO-DOMINION Bank raised net earnings to C\$101.1m (US\$73.3m), or 72 cents a share, in the first quarter ended January 31, from C\$85m, or 68 cents a year earlier. The quarterly dividend has been raised to 20 cents, from 19.

Return on assets advanced from 0.80 per cent to 0.86 per cent, one of the highest returns achieved by a Canadian bank in recent years. It also has the strongest capital base of the five major Canadian banks, and a relatively low exposure to the depressed energy and real estate sectors in Western Canada.

Assets stood at C\$47.0bn on January 31, up from C\$42.6bn on December 31. Non-performing loans declined by over 10 per cent in the latest

quarter to C\$1.1bn, due largely to payment of interest on international loans. Loan loss provisions, which are calculated on a five-year moving average, rose to C\$62.4m from C\$47.6m.

First City Financial, the Vancouver-based financial services and real estate group controlled by the Belzberg brothers, raised net income to C\$47.7m, or C\$2.37 a share, last year, from C\$42.2m, or C\$2.25 in 1983.

The weak property market in Western Canada contributed to a C\$98.0m provision for mortgage losses in 1984, compared with C\$15.6m in 1983. In addition, a provision of C\$17.4m for declines in real estate values was set aside in the fourth quarter of last year.

Bridgestone net profits up 14%

TOKYO—Bridgestone Corporation has reported unconsolidated net income for 1984 rising by 14.2 per cent to ¥17,600 (\$1,760m) from ¥15,400m. The tyre-maker's sales rose 6.5 per cent to ¥547bn from ¥513bn. Earnings per share rose to ¥32.49 from ¥28.51.

Profits before taxes and extra-dividends, rose 15.7 per cent to ¥38,010bn from ¥32,860bn.

Net in the current year will come to ¥18bn, up 1.9 per cent. Bridgestone predicted. It said it expected sales to increase 9.7 per cent to ¥600bn. AP-DJ

USSR puts Zurich bank into liquidation

By John Wicks in Bern

WOZCHOD HANDELSBANK, the Soviet-owned Zurich bank, is to go into liquidation. This was announced in Bern yesterday by the Swiss Banking Commission.

The business of the bank jointly owned by the Soviet Foreign Trade Bank and the Soviet State Bank will be taken over by the Foreign Trade Bank. This intends to set up a branch of its own in Zurich by the end of the year.

Last autumn it became known that Wozchod had experienced major losses in 1983 and 1984. The bank had been a major channel for the placing of Russian gold on the world market.

Large losses

According to Commission spokesman Mr Erwin Sigrist, "very large" losses resulted from both precious-metals dealing and currency trading. Wozchod has never publicly disclosed the volume of these losses, though unconfirmed statements put them at substantially more than \$100m.

Mr Bernhard Mueller, director of the banking commission, said that the decision to liquidate the bank had not been ordered by the commission.

This bid, however, held talks with the Soviet shareholders. Since "no third parties had suffered a loss," it had been the decision of the Soviet authorities whether Wozchod should be liquidated or re-organised.

Court cases

It is foreseen that the Foreign Trade Bank will assume all "uncontested liabilities" of Wozchod Handelsbank. This formula presumably leaves things open for any court case Moscow might want to bring in connection with contested deals.

Mr Mueller said the commission would look into the reasons behind the Wozchod losses. It would also study the whole question of whether "some form of licensing" should be introduced for traders.

He stressed, however, that any move of this kind by the banking commission would have the disadvantage of not applying to traders outside the banks.

Creditors

The Wozchod case was one of a dozen in the second half of last year in which Swiss-based banks "suffered substantial losses in relation to their size or where bank executives were involved in criminal acts," Mr Mueller stated.

However, in no instance had bank creditors or clients been affected and, in most cases, the banks' capital resources had remained intact.

Apart from Wozchod, the only liquidation was that of the publicly-owned Caisse d'Hypothecaire du Canton de Fribourg, which was taken over by the Fribourg Cantonal Bank.

Granville & Co. Limited

Member of The National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

Over-the-Counter Market				
			Gross Yield	P/E
High	Low	Company	Price Change	Fully Annualized
144	123	Ass. Bkt. Ind. CUL...	150	10.0 0.6
151	135	Ass. Bkt. Ind. CUL...	150	10.0 0.6
77	51	Asprung Group	56 + 1	6.4 11.4 0.2 7.4
42	26	Armstrong & Rhodes	35	8.3 4.4 1.2 7.4
143	108	Armstrong & Rhodes	35	8.3 4.4 1.2 7.4
142	108	Armstrong & Rhodes	35	8.3 4.4 1.2 7.4
201	170	Bay Technology	47	3.5 7.4 5.5 7.8
143	108	Bay Technology	47	3.5 7.4 5.5 7.8
143	108	Bay Technology	47	3.5 7.4 5.5 7.8
152	110	Bay Technology	47	3.5 7.4 5.5 7.8
87	80	Bay Technology	47	3.5 7.4 5.5 7.8
56	84	Bay Technology	47	3.5 7.4 5.5 7.8
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1.5 11.8 5.2 8.5
103	43	Cindico Group	435	1

Higher on economic figures

Metals

Higher on economic figures

SHARPLY HIGHER levels were recorded on Wall Street yesterday, when investors responded favourably to the latest batch of economic figures.

By 1 pm the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 10.16 to 1,394.17, making a rise of 15.32 on the week, while the NYSE All Common Index, at \$108.75, rose 55 cents on the day and \$1.77 on the week. Gains led losses by a two-to-one majority, while the volume expanded 22.7 million to 1.32m compared with 1 pm Thursday.

Analysts said investor fears of possible credit-inflating by the Federal Reserve had begun to fade following release of the latest economic statistics.

The market is recovering from interest rate jitters," said Harvey Denich, of Purcell Graham.

The Fed Thursday reported ASX17.8 rise in M-1 Money Stockpile Friday the Commerce Department said the Index of Leading Economic Indicators jumped 1.7 per cent in January. Both figures were in line with Wall Street expectations.

Bond prices bounced up the news yesterday morning, and the Stock Market followed suit.

Commonwealth Edison topped the active list, unchanged at \$283 1/8 on 1.5m shares and it said it knew no reason for the activity.

American National Resources the second most active issue, rising \$2 1/2 to \$52 1/2—it said it would spin off its oil and gas reserves into a limited partnership.

Phillips Petroleum rose \$1 1/2 to \$48 1/2—a source said Carl Ichan is in talks with financier James Goldsmith about his possible participation in a Phillips buy-out bid.

CBS moved up \$3 to \$57 1/2. Despite Press reports that Ted

CBS, the company owned by Turner, had no deal with his Attorney has made general inquiries with the FCC about broadcast license transfers.

THE AMERICAN SE Market Value Index put on 1.55 to 227.79, making a rise of 1.99 on the week. Trading volume expanded 2.7m shares to 7.7m compared with 1 pm Thursday.

CANADA Stock prices were sharply ahead in heavy trading at mid-session, reflecting Wall Street's renewed enthusiasm about the economy.

The Toronto Composite Index was up 18.5 to 2,613.5, Metals and Minerals 17.2 to 2,092.5, Gold 32.4 to 3,123.2, and Oil and Gas 27.3 to 3,178.7.

Canadian Pacific rose \$7 to \$64—analysts say it is heading into a new cycle of rising profits.

GERMANY The burse closed with a new record high, in a strong rally triggered by heavy demand from foreign investors looking for currency gains should the dollar fall further, dealers said.

News of higher corporate earnings provided further support for the rally, and the Commerzbank 60 share index surged 22.6 to 1,195.4, 7.9 up from the previous peak of 1,183.5. Commerzbank said the new record was 84 per cent above a cyclical low in 1963.

Determination of Central Banks But uncertainty as to the dollar down caused some late profit-taking.

In Frankfurt, Deutsche improved 11.50 to 418.50.

Chemicals, recently boosted by upwards revisions of expected corporate profits in the sector, were pushed sharply higher amid news Schering, up DM7.4 to 108.50, had won 10 per cent increase in world sales.

Electrical Siemens rose DM10.50 to \$53, while car maker Daimler, moved up DM16.50 to 668.

SWITZERLAND Mixed in moderate trading, with investors holding back due to uncertainty over currency and interest rate developments.

Dealers said there was some

where prices failed to react to Thursday's Union Bank dividend news. UBS Bearer: Initially tall Frs 50 before closing unchanged at 3,550, while its Registered shad Frs 5 to 690.

Attention generally shifted to Financials and special situation stocks, dealers said.

Swiss conserves manufacturer Hero rose Frs 75 to 3,700 in active trading—the company stated it wants to remain independent.

BRUSSELS Belgian and Foreign shares higher, spurred by rumours that the Belgian Government plans to extend tax breaks on Belgis share purchases by residents beyond an eight-year expiry date, brokers said.

U.S., German and Dutch shares posted steepest gains among the Foreign shares.

But British shares and gold prices continued their decline.

TOKYO Stock prices rose to their fifth record close in six trading days in hectic trading Friday, paced by strong gains among speculative Drugs.

The Nikkei Dow Jones Index closed 90.25 to a record 12,412.14. Gains led losses 411-to-367. Trading was hectic. Turnover 30m (530m) shares.

The Nikkei Dow surged to a 56.78 gain, then the first hour of trading after the record that level until the late burst. It went into the final hour up 57.02.

The Nikkei Dow Index lost scored 240.23 since it closed last Saturday's half-day session at 12,171.92. The gains came after a heavily exaggerated sell-off in Financials Blue Chips and Drugs again.

Buying orders came from overseas, from domestic corporations and from domestic individuals.

Drugs and Biotechnology issues led the advance, followed by companies' rumours, or known to be working on anti-cancer agents. Asahi Chemical rose ¥100 to 820 on 57m shares on a report its anti-cancer research, which appeared in a British journal, lent credence to the stories and drew in foreign buying.

Unconfirmed rumours that Jardine Matheson may be planning a major corporate announcement sent most-Hong Kong share prices sharply higher in active trading.

The Hang Seng Index improved 25.90 to 1,401.15. Turnover HK\$509.71m (HK\$296.09m).

A widespread rumour that Jardine Matheson, up 40 cents to HK\$10.10, plans to sell its 20 per cent stake in Hongkong Land, up 23 cents to HK\$5.15, pushed up most prices. Depending upon the version of the rumour, the buyer is either Anglo-American or the giant South African mining company, or Khod Tse Piat, a South East Asian financier who already is engaged in a takeover battle for Woeleek Marden, up 5 cents to HK\$7.25, another Hong Kong conglomerate.

SINGAPORE Mixed after moving uncertainly throughout the day on buying support and profit-taking in active trading.

The Straits Times Industrial Index rose 2.16 to \$41.20. Turnover 26.4m (18.0m) shares.

Pan-Electric, the most actively traded issue, improved 20 cents to \$53.10 — one analyst said expectations that it will report hefty profits because of its salvage subsidiary's earnings in the war-torn Arabian Gulf haven't been fully reflected in Pan-elastic's price.

AUSTRALIA Share markets drifted lower in quiet conditions with some profit-taking ahead of the week-end.

The All Ordinaries Index was down 2.0 to 790.3, Metals and Minerals 5.3 to 42.3, and Resources 1.9 to 362.0. National turnover 34.28m shares, worth about \$449.17m — (\$75.5m) shares \$456.49m). Rises and falls were about even.

Brokers said quiet trading on international markets wrought anxious local centres to take a breather after a volatile week's business.

40
+2
50

NEW YORK

DOW JONES

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Industrie 1284.01

1291.65

1288.11

1277.50

1275.84

1297.92

1288.51

1297.92

41.28

Auto 72.66

72.90

73.02

73.28

73.64

73.75

72.66

73.75

1.09

Transport 630.28

631.00

631.80

623.34

623.11

634.52

630.28

634.52

12.32

Utilities 148.73

148.08

148.44

148.86

148.85

151.16

148.73

151.16

12.43

Trading Vol

100,728,107,690

114,150

89,740

93,680

Day's High

1288.50

1295.27

Industrial div. yield %

4.77

4.75

4.68

4.75

STANDARD AND POORS

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Industrie 808.88

801.97

802.62

800.56

800.56

804.73

801.97

804.73

1.23

Auto 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Transport 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Utilities 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Industrial div. yield %

5.82

5.81

5.76

4.01

Industrial P/E ratio

11.53

11.54

11.49

18.88

Long Gov. Bond yield

11.85

11.45

11.88

11.88

N.Y.S.E. ALL COMMON

Rises and Falls

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Issues Traded...

1,956

1,990

1,988

Issues...

967

944

1,008

Falls...

696

811

548

Unchanged...

416

408

New Highs...

72

58

New Lows...

2

7

TORONTO

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Metals & Minerals 207.2

204.5

207.5

203.5

203.4

211.4

207.2

211.4

4.2

Composites 253.1

250.4

253.4

247.8

247.8

257.4

253.1

257.4

4.4

Montreal Portfolio 150.27

153.92

150.07

152.82

152.67

154.48

150.27

154.48

4.21

NEW YORK ACTIVE STOCKS

Change

Stocks

Closing

Price

Change

Stocks

Closing

Price

Change

Stocks

Closing

Price

Change

Alcoa

1,000

44 1/4

1,000

1/4

Alcoa

1,000

44 1/4

1/4

Alcoa

1,000

44 1/4

1/4

Amgen

1,000

1,325.80

1,325.80

0

Amgen

1,000

1,325.80

1,325.80

0

Amgen

1,000

1,325.80

1,325.80

0

AT & T

1,000

1,307.80

1,307.80

0

AT & T

1,000

1,307.80

1,307.80

0

AT & T

1,000

1,307.80

1,307.80

0

Boeing

1,000

1,222.30

1,222.30

0

Boeing

1,000

1,222.30

1,222.30

0

Boeing

1,000

1,222.30

1,222.30

0

Chrysler

1,000

1,068.10

1,068.10

0

Chrysler

1,000

1,068.10

1,068.10

0

Chrysler

1,000

1,068.10

1,068.10

0

-- Saturday February 23: Jesse Nixtel-Don 12,171.5, TRE 936.63.

Base value of all indices as of 1000 a.m. Australian All Ordine and Metals-530, NYSE All Common-53, Standard and Poors-100, and Toronto Composite and Metals-1000. Toronto indices based 1975 and Montreal Portfolio 4/4/75.

* Excluding finance, 1400 industries, 1400 industries, plus 40 utilities, 40 finance and 20 transport, 4 closed, 4 unavailable.

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Australia 780.3

782.5

786.0

782.4

786.0

786.0

780.3

786.0

5.7

Metals & Minerals 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Auto 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Transport 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Utilities 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Trading Vol

100,728,107,690

114,150

89,740

93,680

Day's High

1288.50

1295.27

Industrial div. yield %

4.77

4.75

4.68

4.75

STANDARD AND POORS

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Industrie 808.88

801.97

802.62

800.56

800.56

804.73

801.97

804.73

1.23

Auto 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Transport 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Utilities 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Industrial div. yield %

5.82

5.81

5.76

4.01

Industrial P/E ratio

11.53

11.54

11.49

18.88

Long Gov. Bond yield

11.85

11.45

11.88

11.88

N.Y.S.E. ALL COMMON

Rises and Falls

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Issues Traded...

1,956

1,990

1,988

Issues...

967

944

1,008

Falls...

696

811

548

Unchanged...

416

408

New Highs...

72

58

New Lows...

2

7

TORONTO

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Metals & Minerals 207.2

204.5

207.5

203.5

203.4

211.4

207.2

211.4

4.2

Composites 253.1

250.4

253.4

247.8

247.8

257.4

253.1

257.4

4.4

Montreal Portfolio 150.27

153.92

150.07

152.82

152.67

154.48

150.27

154.48

4.21

NEW YORK ACTIVE STOCKS

Change

Stocks

Closing

Price

Change

Stocks

Closing

Price

Change

Stocks

Closing

Price

Change

Alcoa

1,000

44 1/4

1,000

1/4

Alcoa

1,000

44 1/4

1/4

Alcoa

1,000

44 1/4

1/4

Amgen

1,000

1,325.80

1,325.80

0

Amgen

1,000

1,325.80

1,325.80

0

Amgen

1,000

1,325.80

1,325.80

0

AT & T

1,000

1,307.80

1,307.80

0

AT & T

1,000

1,307.80

1,307.80

0

AT & T

1,000

1,307.80

1,307.80

0

Boeing

1,000

1,222.30

1,222.30

0

Boeing

1,000

1,222.30

1,222.30

0

Boeing

1,000

1,222.30

1,222.30

0

Chrysler

1,000

1,068.10

1,068.10

0

Chrysler

1,000

1,068.10

1,068.10

0

Chrysler

1,000

1,068.10

1,068.10

0

-- Saturday February 23: Jesse Nixtel-Don 12,171.5, TRE 936.63.

Base value of all indices as of 1000 a.m. Australian All Ordine and Metals-530, NYSE All Common-53, Standard and Poors-100, and Toronto Composite and Metals-1000. Toronto indices based 1975 and Montreal Portfolio 4/4/75.

* Excluding finance, 1400 industries, 1400 industries, plus 40 utilities, 40 finance and 20 transport, 4 closed, 4 unavailable.

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Australia 780.3

782.5

786.0

782.4

786.0

786.0

780.3

786.0

5.7

Metals & Minerals 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Auto 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Transport 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Utilities 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Trading Vol

100,728,107,690

114,150

89,740

93,680

Day's High

1288.50

1295.27

Industrial div. yield %

4.77

4.75

4.68

4.75

STANDARD AND POORS

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Industrie 808.88

801.97

802.62

800.56

800.56

804.73

801.97

804.73

1.23

Auto 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Transport 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Utilities 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Industrial div. yield %

5.82

5.81

5.76

4.01

Industrial P/E ratio

11.53

11.54

11.49

18.88

Long Gov. Bond yield

11.85

11.45

11.88

11.88

N.Y.S.E. ALL COMMON

Rises and Falls

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Issues Traded...

1,956

1,990

1,988

Issues...

967

944

1,008

Falls...

696

811

548

Unchanged...

416

408

New Highs...

72

58

New Lows...

2

7

TORONTO

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Metals & Minerals 207.2

204.5

207.5

203.5

203.4

211.4

207.2

211.4

4.2

Composites 253.1

250.4

253.4

247.8

247.8

257.4

253.1

257.4

4.4

Montreal Portfolio 150.27

153.92

150.07

152.82

152.67

154.48

150.27

154.48

4.21

NEW YORK ACTIVE STOCKS

Change

Stocks

Closing

Price

Change

Stocks

Closing

Price

Change

Stocks

Closing

Price

Change

Alcoa

1,000

44 1/4

1,000

1/4

Alcoa

1,000

44 1/4

1/4

Alcoa

1,000

44 1/4

1/4

Amgen

1,000

1,325.80

1,325.80

0

Amgen

1,000

1,325.80

1,325.80

0

Amgen

1,000

1,325.80

1,325.80

0

AT & T

1,000

1,307.80

1,307.80

0

AT & T

1,000

1,307.80

1,307.80

0

AT & T

1,000

1,307.80

1,307.80

0

Boeing

1,000

1,222.30

1,222.30

0

Boeing

1,000

1,222.30

1,222.30

0

Boeing

1,000

1,222.30

1,222.30

0

Chrysler

1,000

1,068.10

1,068.10

0

Chrysler

1,000

1,068.10

1,068.10

0

Chrysler

1,000

1,068.10

1,068.10

0

-- Saturday February 23: Jesse Nixtel-Don 12,171.5, TRE 936.63.

Base value of all indices as of 1000 a.m. Australian All Ordine and Metals-530, NYSE All Common-53, Standard and Poors-100, and Toronto Composite and Metals-1000. Toronto indices based 1975 and Montreal Portfolio 4/4/75.

* Excluding finance, 1400 industries, 1400 industries, plus 40 utilities, 40 finance and 20 transport, 4 closed, 4 unavailable.

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Australia 780.3

782.5

786.0

782.4

786.0

786.0

780.3

786.0

5.7

Metals & Minerals 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Auto 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Transport 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Utilities 111.80

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

112.00

111.80

112.00

0.20

Trading Vol

100,728,107,690

114,150

89,740

93,680

Day's High

1288.50

1295.27

Industrial div. yield %

4.77

4.75

4.68

4.75

STANDARD AND POORS

1984-85

Since Comp'n

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Industrie 808.88

801.97

802.62

800.56

800.56

804.73

801.97

804.73

1.23

Auto 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Transport 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Utilities 181.10

180.71

181.17

179.86

179.86

181.30

181.10

181.30

0.20

Industrial div. yield %

5.82

5.81

5.76

4.01

Industrial P/E ratio

11.53

11.54

11.49

18.88

Long Gov. Bond yield

11.85

11.45

11.88

11.88

N.Y.S.E. ALL COMMON

Rises and Falls

Mar. 1

Feb. 28

Feb. 27

Feb. 26

Feb. 25

Feb. 22

High

Low

High

Low

Issues Traded...

1,956

1,990

1,988

Issues...

967

944

1,008

Falls...

696

811

548

Unchanged...

416

408

New Highs...

72

58

New Lows...

2

7

CURRENCIES, MONEY and CAPITAL MARKETS

هنا من الدول

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Further intervention

Another large effort by central banks to check yesterday's dollar rally was seen as market sentiment again wanted to drive the U.S. currency higher. A high Federal funds rate of 2 1/4 per cent in New York, and a rise of 1.7 per cent in January U.S. leading indicators, gave the dollar an added boost in the afternoon, but demand was also very strong in the morning, before activity tailed off towards the close. The German Bundesbank was reported to be intervening in the Far East before Europe opened, managing to push the dollar down from a peak in Hong Kong of DM 3.5850 to the day's low of DM 3.52.

Sterling remained depressed

by concern about oil prices falling 75 points to \$1.0720-1.0730, and also declined to DM 3.60 from DM 3.6150; FF 11.0250 from FF 11.0350; and Y280 from Y280.50, but was unchanged at SwF 3.0850. The exchange rate index fell 0.5 to 70.8, while the dollar's index rose to 154.3 from 153.5.

\$ in New York (latest)

	March 1	Prev. close
Spot	61.4725-1.0720	61.4710-1.0720
1 month	61.50-1.0720	61.50-1.0720
3 months	61.50-1.0720	61.50-1.0720
6 months	61.50-1.0720	61.50-1.0720
12 months	61.50-1.0720	61.50-1.0720

Forward premiums and discounts apply to the U.S. dollar.

STERLING EXCHANGE RATE INDEX	10.00 am	11.00 am	Noon	1.00 pm	2.00 pm	3.00 pm	4.00 pm
(Bank of England)							
March 1 Previous	70.9	71.5	71.5	71.5	71.5	71.5	71.5
8.30 am	70.9	71.5	71.5	71.5	71.5	71.5	71.5
9.30 am	71.0	71.6	71.6	71.6	71.6	71.6	71.6

POUND SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST POUND

March 1	Day's spread	Close	One month	Three months	%
U.S.	1.0650-1.0610	1.0720-1.0730	0.54-0.56 pm	5.82 1.17-1.12pm	4.27
Canada	1.4770-1.4800	1.4880-1.4900	0.54-0.56 pm	5.82 1.17-1.12pm	2.32
Denmark	4.6320-4.6340	4.6740-4.6760	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	6.61
France	11.0270-11.0290	11.0270-11.0290	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	3.69
Germany	12.78-12.85	12.85-12.90	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	2.82
Ireland	1.1535-1.1510	1.1535-1.1510	0.12 pm-0.04	0.31 0.16pm-2.04	-0.24
Italy	3.67-3.75	3.65-3.68	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-0.64
Netherlands	1.67-1.68	1.67-1.68	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-0.64
Spain	168-169	168-169	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	0.96
Sweden	22.25-22.25	22.25-22.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-1.24
Switzerland	10.25-10.25	10.25-10.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	1.23
Belgium	10.25-10.25	10.25-10.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	2.56
Japan	10.25-10.25	10.25-10.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-0.07
South Africa	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	7.50
South Korea	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	8.90
Spain	3.06-3.09	3.06-3.09	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	7.94

Belgian rate for convertible francs. Financial franc 72.65-72.85. Six-month forward dollar 1.50-1.55 pm. 12-month 1.60-1.65 pm.

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

March 1	Day's spread	Close	One month	Three months	%
U.S.	1.0650-1.0610	1.0720-1.0730	0.54-0.56 pm	5.82 1.17-1.12pm	4.27
Canada	1.4770-1.4800	1.4880-1.4900	0.54-0.56 pm	5.82 1.17-1.12pm	2.32
Denmark	4.6320-4.6340	4.6740-4.6760	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	6.61
France	11.0270-11.0290	11.0270-11.0290	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	3.69
Germany	12.78-12.85	12.85-12.90	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	2.82
Ireland	1.1535-1.1510	1.1535-1.1510	0.12 pm-0.04	0.31 0.16pm-2.04	-0.24
Italy	3.67-3.75	3.65-3.68	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-0.64
Netherlands	1.67-1.68	1.67-1.68	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-0.64
Spain	168-169	168-169	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	0.96
Sweden	22.25-22.25	22.25-22.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-1.24
Switzerland	10.25-10.25	10.25-10.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	1.23
Belgium	10.25-10.25	10.25-10.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	2.56
Japan	10.25-10.25	10.25-10.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-0.07
South Africa	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	7.50
South Korea	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	8.90
Spain	3.06-3.09	3.06-3.09	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	7.94

Belgian rate for convertible francs. Financial franc 72.65-72.85. Six-month forward dollar 1.50-1.55 pm. 12-month 1.60-1.65 pm.

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

March 1	Day's spread	Close	One month	Three months	%
U.S.	1.0650-1.0610	1.0720-1.0730	0.54-0.56 pm	5.82 1.17-1.12pm	4.27
Canada	1.4770-1.4800	1.4880-1.4900	0.54-0.56 pm	5.82 1.17-1.12pm	2.32
Denmark	4.6320-4.6340	4.6740-4.6760	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	6.61
France	11.0270-11.0290	11.0270-11.0290	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	3.69
Germany	12.78-12.85	12.85-12.90	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	2.82
Ireland	1.1535-1.1510	1.1535-1.1510	0.12 pm-0.04	0.31 0.16pm-2.04	-0.24
Italy	3.67-3.75	3.65-3.68	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-0.64
Netherlands	1.67-1.68	1.67-1.68	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-0.64
Spain	168-169	168-169	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	0.96
Sweden	22.25-22.25	22.25-22.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-1.24
Switzerland	10.25-10.25	10.25-10.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	1.23
Belgium	10.25-10.25	10.25-10.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	2.56
Japan	10.25-10.25	10.25-10.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	-0.07
South Africa	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	7.50
South Korea	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.25	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	8.90
Spain	3.06-3.09	3.06-3.09	2.25-2.26 pm	2.08 5.45-5.46 pm	7.94

Belgian rate for convertible francs. Financial franc 72.65-72.85. Six-month forward dollar 1.50-1.55 pm. 12-month 1.60-1.65 pm.

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

Rates firmer

Interest rates were firmer in cautious London money market trading, as sterling continued to weaken against the dollar. Three-month interbank was steady throughout at 13 1/4-14 per cent compared with 13 1/4-14 per cent.

UK clearing banks base leading rate 14 per cent since January 28

and discount houses buying rates for three-month eligible bank bills rose to 13 1/2 per cent from 13 1/4 per cent.

The Bank of England forecast a money market shortage of £400m in the early morning, but changed this to £450m at noon.

Before lunch the Bank of England bought £150m bills by way of £10m bank bills in band 1 (up to 14 days maturity) at 13 1/2 per cent; £2m Treasury bills in band 2 (15-33 days) at 13 1/2 per cent; £50m bank bills in band 3 (34-63 days) at 13 1/2 per cent; and £50m bank bills in band 4 (64-91 days) at 13 1/2 per cent.

In the afternoon another £250m bills were purchased, through £10m bank bills in band 1 at 13 1/2 per cent; and £240m bank bills in band 2 at 13 1/2 per cent.

Temporary facilities available

EURO-CURRENCY INTEREST RATES (Market closing rates)

Mar. 1	Sterling	U.S. Dollar	Canadian Dollar	Dutch Guilder	Swiss Franc	D-Mark	French Franc	Italian Lira	Belgian Franc	Yen	Danish Krona
Short-term	14 1/4-14 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	13 1/4-13 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2
7 days notice	14 1/4-14 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	13 1/4-13 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2
Month	14 1/4-14 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	13 1/4-13 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2
Three months	14 1/4-14 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	13 1/4-13 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2
Six months	14 1/4-14 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	13 1/4-13 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2
One year	14 1/4-14 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	5 1/4-5 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	13 1/4-13 1/2	10 1/4-10 1/2	9 1/4-9 1/2	6 1/4-6 1/2

Asian 5 closing rates (in Singapore): Short-term 8 1/4-8 1/2 per cent; seven days 8 1/4-8 1/2 per cent; one month 8 1/4-8 1/2 per cent; three months 8 1/4-8 1/2 per cent; six months 8 1/4-8 1/2 per cent; one year 11 1/2-11 1/2 per cent; long-term Eurodollar: two years 11 1/2-11 1/2 per cent; three years 11 1/2-11 1/2 per cent; four years 12 1/2-12 1/2 per cent; five years 12 1/2-12 1/2 per cent nominal. Short-term rates are call for U.S. dollars and Japanese yen; other two days' notice.

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLLAR

DOLLAR SPOT-FORWARD AGAINST DOLL

FT UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

[illegible]

هكذا من العمل

There are now more than 600 Unit Trusts on offer in the UK. So choosing the right ones in which to invest is far from easy.

Even the pages of this newspaper contain a wide range of investment offers. But the opportunities are far more extensive than that.

Should you choose a specialist sector, like technology, leisure or energy? Would it be better to invest in America, Japan, Australia, Hong Kong – or Europe? Which will produce the most growth? And which the highest income?

Individual Unit Trust Groups have individual strengths and are, therefore, unlikely to produce market leaders in all sectors and all areas.

Our independent expertise, knowledge of markets and research facilities can assist you in achieving the required portfolio spread and in identifying the right opportunities.

For further details of our Unit Trust Advisory Service send off the coupon today.

To: Charles Dornier Group, 25000 Woodcocks Court, 1640 Glenview Street, Lincolnshire, UK. All telephones: 01 725 8446 or telex: 843335 DORNIER G

Please contact me with details of your Unit Trust Advisory Service.

Name _____ Address _____ Telephone No. _____ Amount I wish to invest _____

CHARNLEY & DAVIES GROUP

CHARINLEY DAVIES GROUP

هكذا من أهل

[illegible][illegible]

That's BTR

[illegible]

CORPORATION LOANS						20
1024	977	Blw 11/11/1965	990-114	11.40	13.42	50
1025	98	Bowham 12/29/1985	990-114	12.55	14.22	51
1026	994	Burley 1/31/1987	1011-114	12.81	14.89	52
1027	995	Burley 1/31/1987	1011-114	11.23	13.75	53
1028	72	GLC 6/12/1990-92	761-114	11.81	11.76	54
1029	854	Heers 6/16/1965-87	897-114	7.53	11.56	55
1030	111	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	56
1031	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	57
1032	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	58
1033	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	59
1034	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	60
1035	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	61
1036	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	62
1037	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	63
1038	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	64
1039	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	65
1040	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	66
1041	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	67
1042	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	68
1043	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	69
1044	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	70
1045	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	71
1046	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	72
1047	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	73
1048	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	74
1049	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	75
1050	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	76
1051	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	77
1052	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	78
1053	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	79
1054	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	80
1055	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	81
1056	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	82
1057	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	83
1058	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	84
1059	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	85
1060	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	86
1061	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	87
1062	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	88
1063	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	89
1064	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	90
1065	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	91
1066	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	92
1067	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	93
1068	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	94
1069	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	95
1070	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	96
1071	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	97
1072	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	98
1073	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	99
1074	994	Leeds 1/13/2000	1118-114	11.95	11.86	100

[illegible]

FOREIGN BONDS & RAILS						
1984-85		Stock	Prices	±	% Yr. Growth	Std. Yield
25	7	Chicago Gas 1992	24	—	—	189
25	10	Do. Syc 1912	23	—	—	167
25	9	Do. Syc 1913	21	—	—	307
25	7	Do. Syc 25 Bearer	24 1/2	—	—	189
25	8	Great 7pc Ann.	—	3 1/2	5.71	177
25	12	Do. Syc 20 Smt.	—	5	5.21	5219
25	44	Do. Syc Minard Ass.	56	2	13.62	96
25	40	Hung. 24c Ann.	73	2 1/2	3.89	31.0
25	104	Hydro Gen. Syc 2011	124 1/2	1 1/2	12.96	273
25	104	Do. Syc 2011	124 1/2	1 1/2	12.96	273
25	104	Do. 14pc Ln. 2016	132 1/2	1 1/2	13.09	273

CANADIANS									
228	BK. Montreal St.	18	++	\$1.96	---	---	---	---	7.4
254	BK. Mont Scott	890	+2	1680	---	---	---	---	5.2
839	Pharmack Res Corp	859	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
101	B&E II	253	+2	\$2.26	---	---	---	---	6.1
200	Yellow Valley	113	+	206	---	---	---	---	1.2
166	Shreeang	222	+4	\$1.40	---	---	---	---	4.8
204	Wetmoreland Res	336	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
128	Can. Imp. Bk. 52	201	+4	\$2.08	---	---	---	---	6.9
228	Can. Pac. Inc. 200	409	+4	\$1.40	---	---	---	---	2.4

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

1	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	2036-37	2037-38	2038-39	2039-40	2040-41	2041-42	2042-43	2043-44	2044-45	2045-46	2046-47	2047-48	2048-49	2049-50	2050-51	2051-52	2052-53	2053-54	2054-55	2055-56	2056-57	2057-58	2058-59	2059-60	2060-61	2061-62	2062-63	2063-64	2064-65	2065-66	2066-67	2067-68	2068-69	2069-70	2070-71	2071-72	2072-73	2073-74	2074-75	2075-76	2076-77	2077-78	2078-79	2079-80	2080-81	2081-82	2082-83	2083-84	2084-85	2085-86	2086-87	2087-88	2088-89	2089-90	2090-91	2091-92	2092-93	2093-94	2094-95	2095-96	2096-97	2097-98	2098-99	2099-00	2100-01	2101-02	2102-03	2103-04	2104-05	2105-06	2106-07	2107-08	2108-09	2109-10	2110-11	2111-12	2112-13	2113-14	2114-15	2115-16	2116-17	2117-18	2118-19	2119-20	2120-21	2121-22	2122-23	2123-24	2124-25	2125-26	2126-27	2127-28	2128-29	2129-30	2130-31	2131-32	2132-33	2133-34	2134-35	2135-36	2136-37	2137-38	2138-39	2139-40	2140-41	2141-42	2142-43	2143-44	2144-45	2145-46	2146-47	2147-48	2148-49	2149-50	2150-51	2151-52	2152-53	2153-54	2154-55	2155-56	2156-57	2157-58	2158-59	2159-60	2160-61	2161-62	2162-63	2163-64	2164-65	2165-66	2166-67	2167-68	2168-69	2169-70	2170-71	2171-72	2172-73	2173-74	2174-75	2175-76	2176-77	2177-78	2178-79	2179-80	2180-81	2181-82	2182-83	2183-84	2184-85	2185-86	2186-87	2187-88	2188-89	2189-90	2190-91	2191-92	2192-93	2193-94	2194-95	2195-96	2196-97	2197-98	2198-99	2199-00	2200-01	2201-02	2202-03	2203-04	2204-05	2205-06	2206-07	2207-08	2208-09	2209-10	2210-11	2211-12	2212-13	2213-14	2214-15	2215-16	2216-17	2217-18	2218-19	2219-20	2220-21	2221-22	2222-23	2223-24	2224-25	2225-26	2226-27	2227-28	2228-29	2229-30	2230-31	2231-32	2232-33	2233-34	2234-35	2235-36	2236-37	2237-38	2238-39	2239-40	2240-41	2241-42	2242-43	2243-44	2244-45	2245-46	2246-47	2247-48	2248-49	2249-50	2250-51	2251-52	2252-53	2253-54	2254-55	2255-56	2256-57	2257-58	2258-59	2259-60	2260-61	2261-62	2262-63	2263-64	2264-65	2265-66	2266-67	2267-68	2268-69	2269-70	2270-71	2271-72	2272-73	2273-74	2274-75	2275-76	2276-77	2277-78	2278-79	2279-80	2280-81	2281-82	2282-83	2283-84	2284-85	2285-86	2286-87	2287-88	2288-89	2289-90	2290-91	2291-92	2292-93	2293-94	2294-95	2295-96	2296-97	2297-98	2298-99	2299-00	2300-01	2301-02	2302-03	2303-04	2304-05	2305-06	2306-07	2307-08	2308-09	2309-10	2310-11	2311-12	2312-13	2313-14	2314-15	2315-16	2316-17	2317-18	2318-19	2319-20	2320-21	2321-22	2322-23	2323-24	2324-25	2325-26	2326-27	2327-28	2328-29	2329-30	2330-31	2331-32	2332-33	2333-34	2334-35	2335-36	2336-37	2337-38	2338-39	2339-40	2340-41	2341-42	2342-43	2343-44	2344-45	2345-46	2346-47	2347-48	2348-49	2349-50	2350-51	2351-52	2352-53	2353-54	2354-55	2355-56	2356-57	2357-58	2358-59	2359-60	2360-61	2361-62	2362-63	2363-64	2364-65	2365-66	2366-67	2367-68	2368-69	2369-70	2370-71	2371-72	2372-73	2373-74	2374-75	2375-76	2376-77	2377-78	2378-79	2379-80	2380-81	2381-82	2382-83	2383-84	2384-85	2385-86	2386-87	2387-88	2388-89	2389-90	2390-91	2391-92	2392-93	2393-94	2394-95	2395-96	2396-97	2397-98	2398-99	2399-00	2400-01	2401-02	2402-03	2403-04	2404-05	2405-06	2406-07	2407-08	2408-09	2409-10	2410-11	2411-12	2412-13	2413-14	2414-15	2415-16	2416-17	2417-18	2418-19	2419-20	2420-21	2421-22	2422-23	2423-24	2424-25	2425-26	2426-27	2427-28	2428-29	2429-30	2430-31	2431-32	2432-33	2433-34	2434-35	2435-36	2436-37	2437-38	2438-39	2439-40	2440-41	2441-42	2442-43	2443-44	2444-45	2445-46	2446-47	2447-48	2448-49	2449-50	2450-51	2451-52	2452-53	2453-54	2454-55	2455-56	2456-57	2457-58	2458-59	2459-60	2460-61	2461-62	2462-63	2463-64	2464-65	2465-66	2466-67	2467-68	2468-69	2469-70	2470-71	2471-72	2472-73	2473-74	2474-75	2475-76	2476-77	2477-78	2478-79	2479-80	2480-81	2481-82	2482-83	2483-84	2484-85	2485-86	2486-87	2487-88	2488-89	2489-90	2490-91	2491-92	2492-93	2493-94	2494-95	2495-96	2496-97	2497-98	2498-99	2499-00	2500-01	2501-02	2502-03	2503-04	2504-05	2505-06	2506-07	2507-08	2508-09	2509-10	2510-11	2511-12	2512-13	2513-14	2514-15	2515-16	2516-17	2517-18	2518-19	2519-20	2520-21	2521-22	2522-23	2523-24	2524-25	2525-26	2526-27	2527-28	2528-29	2529-30	2530-31	2531-32	2532-33	2533-34	2534-35	2535-36	2536-37	2537-38	2538-39	2539-40	2540-41	2541-42	2542-43	2543-44	2544-45	2545-46	2546-47	2547-48	2548-49	2549-50	2550-51	2551-52	2552-53	2553-54	2554-55	2555-56	2556-57	2557-58	2558-59	2559-60	2560-61	2561-62	2562-63	2563-64	2564-65	2565-66	2566-67	2567-68	2568-69	2569-70	2570-71	2571-72	2572-73	2573-74	2574-75	2575-76	2576-77	2577-78	2578-79	2579-80	2580-81	2581-82	2582-83	2583-84	2584-85	2585-86	2586-87	2587-88	2588-89	2589-90	2590-91	2591-92	2592-93	2593-94	2594-95	2595-96	2596-97	2597-98	2598-99	2599-00	2600-01	2601-02	2602-03	2603-04	2604-05	2605-06	2606-07	2607-08	2608-09	2609-10	2610-11	2611-12	2612-13	2613-14	2614-15	2615-16	2616-17	2617-18	2618-19	2619-20	2620-21	2621-22	2622-23	2623-24	2624-25	2625-26	2626-27	2627-28	2628-29	2629-30	2630-31	2631-32	2632-33	2633-34	2634-35	2635-36	2636-37	2637-38	2638-39	2639-40	2640-41	2641-42	2642-43	2643-44	2644-45	2645-46	2646-47	2647-48	2648-49	2649-50	2650-51	2651-52	2652-53	2653-54	2654-55	2655-56	2656-57	2657-58	2658-59	2659-60	2660-61	2661-62	2662-63	2663-64	2664-65	2665-66	2666-67	2667-68	2668-69	2669-70	2670-71	2671-72	2672-73	2673-74	2674-75	2675-76	2676-77	2677-78	2678-79	2679-80	2680-81	2681-82	2682-83	2683-84	2684-85	2685-86	2686-87	2687-88	2688-89	2689-90	2690-91	2691-92	2692-93	2693-94	2694-95	2695-96	2696-97	2697-98	2698-99	2699-00	2700-01	2701-02	2702-03	2703-04	2704-05	2705-06	2706-07	2707-08	2708-09	2709-10	2710-11	2711-12	2712-13	2713-14	2714-15	2715-16	2716-17	2717-18	2718-19	2719-20	2720-21	2721-22	2722-23	2723-24	2724-25	2725-26	2726-27	2727-28	2728-29	2729-30	2730-31	2731-32	2732-33	2733-34	2734-35	2735-36	2736-37	2737-38	2738-39	2739-40	2740-41	2741-42	2742-43	2743-44	2744-45	2745-46	2746-47	2747-48	2748-49	2749-50	2750-51	2751-52	2752-53	2753-54	2754-55	2755-56	2756-57	2757-58	2758-59	2759-60	2760-61	2761-62	2762-63	2763-64	2764-65	2765-66	2766-67	2767-68	2768-69	2769-70	2770-71	2771-72	2772-73	2773-74	2774-75	2775-76	2776-77	2777-78	2778-79	2779-80	2780-81	2781-82	2782-83	2783-84	2784-85	2785-86	2786-87	2787-88	2788-89	2789-90	2790-91	2791-92	2792-93	2793-94	2794-95	2795-96	2796-97	2797-98	2798-99	2799-00	2800-01	2801-02	2802-03	2803-04	2804-05	2805-06	2806-07	2807-08	2808-09	2809-10	2810-11	2811-12	2812-13	2813-14	2814-15	2815-16	2816-17	2817-18	2818-19	2819-20	2820-21	2821-22	2822-23	2823-24	2824-25	2825-26	2826-27	2827-28	2828-29	2829-30	2830-31	2831-32	2832-33	2833-34	2834-35	2835-36	2836-37	2837-38	2838-39	2839-40	2840-41	2841-42	2842-43	2843-44	2844-45	2845-46	2846-47	2847-48	2848-49	2849-50	2850-51	2851-52	2852-53	2853-54	2854-55	2855-56	2856-57	2857-58	2858-59	2859-60	2860-61	2861-62	2862-63	2863-64	2864-65	2865-66	2866-67	2867-68	2868-69	2869-70	2870-71	2871-72	2872-73	2873-74	2874-75	2875-76	2876-77	2877-78	2878-79	2879-80	2880-81	2881-82	2882-83	2883-84	2884-85	2885-86	2886-87	2887-88	2888-89	2889-90	2890-91	2891-92	2892-93	2893-94	2894-95	2895-96	2896-97	2897-98	2898-99	2899-00	2900-01	2901-02	2902-03	2903-04	2904-05	2905-06	2906-07	2907-08	2908-09	2909-10	2910-11	2911-12	2912-13	2913-14	2914-15	2915-16	2916-17	2917-18	2918-19	2919-20	2920-21	2921-22	2922-23	2923-24	2924-25	2925-26	2926-27	2927-28	2928-29	2929-30	2930-31	2931-32	2932-33	2933-34	2934-35	2935-36	2936-37	2937-38	2938-39	2939-40	2940-41	2941-42	2942-43	2943-44	2944-45	2945-46	2946-47	2947-48	2948-49	2949-50	2950-51	2951-52	2952-53	2953-54	2954-55	2955-56	2956-57	2957-58	2958-59	2959-60	2960-61	2961-62	2962-63	2963-64	2964-65	2965-66	2966-67	2967-68	2968-69	2969-70	2970-71	2971-72	2972-73	2973-74	2974-75	2975-76	2976-77	2977-78	2978-79	2979-80	2980-81	2981-82	2982-83	2983-84	2984-85	2985-86	2986-87	2987-88	2988-89	2989-90	2990-91	2991-92	2992-93	2993-94	2994-95	2995-96	2996-97	2997-98	2998-99	2999-00	3000-01	3001-02	3002-03	3003-04	3004-05	3005-06	3006-07	3007-08	3008-09	3009-10	3010-11	3011-12	3012-13	3013-14	3014-15	3015-16	3016-17	3017-18	3018-19	3019-20	3020-21	3021-22	3022-23	3023-24	3024-25	3025-26	3026-27	3027-28	
---	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	--

100

هكذا من الجهل

[illegible]

Standard Life
Fund, Build & Let.
Tel: 031-225 2552

FINANCIAL TIMES

Saturday March 2 1985

60 on the other hand I'm very well understood by my temporary secretaries from...
Senior Secretaries
CITY 01-808 1671
WEST END 01-499 0052

TEACHERS IN THE NEWS

Playing a harsher tune

BY MICHAEL DIXON

AS Ms SALLY SIDLEY came out of her classroom, a dozen children stood around fidgeting with assorted guitars. Aged between seven and 11, they were gathered for her regular Wednesday lunchtime music lesson at Avishayes School in Chard, Somerset.

But that day's newspaper headlines said: "Teachers' union starts pay protest." Part of the protest ordered by the National Union of Teachers was that its 235,000 members dropped all lunchtime work. Ms Sidley is her school's NUT representative.

"Suddenly I had 12 small faces smiling up at me expectantly," she says. "I'd just about got them playing decently again after the Christmas break. At moments like that the rule book goes out of the window. I gave them their guitars less."

By then the NUT's membership among the school's dozen teachers was already down from eight to seven. Mr Paul Upton,



Sally Sidley

the head, objecting to the union's refusal to negotiate about changes in job conditions, had decided to leave it and apply to join the National Association of Head Teachers.

Of the remaining seven, one was firmly behind the NUT. His wife, a former teacher, recently had their third child and he is so hard up that he's applying for social security.

"He thinks the 4 per cent pay rise we've been offered leaves us so ridiculously undervalued that any action that might improve our position is justified," Ms Sidley explains.

The daughter of two teachers and the sister of two as well, she has been teaching for 13 years since getting her degree in geography. Although in the pay grade above the basic salary scale she earns £9,500 a year.

Three more of the NUT members reluctantly joined the protest. Two others were opposed, and also decided to leave the union. Sally Sidley could not make up her mind. Then she got a letter from the Somerset education authority threatening to dock her pay if she refused to work out of hours.

"That hardened me. I'm sure most teachers felt the same. Here are the employers refusing to pay us as professionals and at the same time ordering us to behave as professionals in doing lots of extra work. It was a gross personal insult."

"We're a very professional staff. The head sees to that. Ever since he came here he's been getting us together thinking how we could do things better, and helping each other. If we have to stop having free-time staff meetings, we're going to lose as well as everyone else. But Paul's one in a thousand. He's not only an excellent teacher, he's a manager."

In Ms Sidley's experience, good management can make previously nondescript teachers sparkle. But while unanimous that good staff are crushingly underpaid, most at Avishayes accept that some teachers are bad enough to deserve nothing but the sack.

"The problem is, if you're not lucky in having one of the few really good heads, who will see that your work is assessed fairly? Parents wouldn't want to know. Governors wouldn't back you. You couldn't count on the country administrators. Advisers who visit us, we never see people from the authority except when they come to say they're against something, cutting something, or can't give us something they'd promised."

"In that case, all we teachers can count on is a strong union. None of us wants confrontation. But if the management isn't capable of anything better, confrontation it'll have to be."

BR chief's £1.5bn challenge

BY ROBIN PAULEY

BRITISH RAIL announced yesterday that it would buy about 1,500 locomotives in the next 25 years costing about £1.5bn at today's prices, but said that it would not necessarily buy British.

Mr Bob Reid, BR chairman, threw down a challenge to British manufacturers by indicating that he would go out to tender internationally to make sure "we buy only the very best product."

He implicitly criticised the state of the locomotive industry when he addressed the railway division of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers.

He hoped BR's long-term needs would lead to re-establishment of locomotive-building capability serving home and overseas markets.

"But there seems to be a substantial difference between the performance, particularly availability and reliability, of American diesel locomotives and those at present operating on British Rail."

Mr Reid has recently been in the U.S., where he was impressed by locomotives made by General Motors. The British companies faced with Mr Reid's challenge are BR's subsidiary engineering company British Rail Engineering (BRE), and two private-sector engineering companies, GEC and Brush.

He said: "We have a responsibility to make sure we buy only the very best product, one which will give us high availability, high reliability, low fuel consumption and low maintenance cost."

"We live in an increasingly competitive world, and we will only survive if our units costs are as good or better than the opposition. Locomotive design and performance play a critical role."

Most of the 1,500 locomotives needed will be required in the next 10 years. About 1,250 will be diesel powered, the rest electric.

Mr Reid said that while about 850 of the planned diesel would be for the freight business, the number ordered would depend on recovery from "the disastrous effects" of the miners' strike.

Coal normally accounted for 80 per cent of the rail freight business, but was down to 10 per cent for the past year.

"We have lost over £200m in

revenue, we have allowed road transport to get hold of our traffic and given them 12 months to practise ways of carrying it more effectively than we do."

"We have lost customers for good, and may well have so destroyed the basis of our freight business that network freight itself could be in jeopardy," Mr Reid said.

Rail unions agreed on Thursday to continue supporting the striking miners by refusing to move coal. The immediate result was that rail investment could not be increased as planned, he added.

Plans for rail investment involve a record £1.08bn. The £306m electrification of the London-Edinburgh East Coast main line was recently announced.

U.S. holds off on Japan car curbs

BY STEWART FLEMING IN WASHINGTON

JAPAN will not be pressed to curb car exports to the U.S. for a fifth year when the "voluntary" restraint agreement expires at the end of this month, President Ronald Reagan said yesterday.

However, Mr Reagan coupled the decision with a warning that the U.S. expected Japan to respond with important concessions in current negotiations between the countries. These are on improving access to Japanese markets for U.S. products ranging from electronics and telecommunications equipment to timber.

"It is my decision not to urge

the Japanese to extend their voluntary export restraints on autos into the U.S.," the President said.

He added: "In taking this action, I hope we can look forward to reciprocal gestures by Japan concerning the high level of discussions under way between our two countries in the weeks ahead."

The voluntary agreement had limited Japanese car exports to the U.S. to 1.85m units a year.

U.S. trade officials complained this week about what they saw as lack of progress in the talks with Japan. Mr William Brock,

the President's special trade representative, has attacked the failure to reach agreement on new voluntary restraints on Japanese steel exports. There are fears that failure to settle on steel could endanger the effectiveness of the import curbs agreed with countries such as Mexico, South Africa and Australia.

Mr Brock told congressmen on Thursday that he and his colleagues "as well as many members of Congress are rapidly losing patience with the slowness of the market opening process in Japan."

The decision on car quotas

follows a fierce debate in the U.S. where the car industry has alleged that while its financial position has improved radically over the four year curbs, it needs more time and a fall in the value of the dollar to meet the Japanese export challenge.

It is recognised that the major U.S. car companies plan to import about 300,000 more Japanese cars this year for sale through their outlets. Chrysler, the third largest U.S. car company, said this week that it planned to triple to 287,000 units the Japanese cars it will sell in the U.S. under its name.

Fiat and Ford seek European market link

BY ALAN FRIEDMAN IN MILAN

FIAT, the leading Italian motor group, is holding intensive talks with Ford, the second largest U.S. motor company, which could lead to a co-operative agreement for the European market. Such a deal would be Fiat's first with a U.S. motor group.

Fiat said yesterday that a "working group" of executives from Fiat Auto, the group's car-making subsidiary, and Ford executives had met and studied prospects for co-operation.

"We are searching for ways to collaborate in the European market. We are trying to identify forms of industrial co-operation," Fiat said. It is understood

that this could range from the joint production of components to the launch of a jointly produced car.

Fiat shares rose sharply during two days when rumours about the talks with Ford had spread through the Milan stock market. They closed yesterday at L2,389 (1.28p), up 7 per cent from their level of L2,690 on Wednesday.

Word of high level contacts between Fiat and Ford was first leaked on New Year's eve, but the Turin-based group, Italy's largest private sector company, sought to play down reports. Yesterday, however, it became clear that serious

negotiations were under way, although an agreement is expected to be announced for several weeks at least.

Fiat said: "We are trying to achieve economies of scale in the European car market, which is going through a difficult period. It makes sense for us to seek a way of lowering production costs and this has always been Fiat policy."

Fiat denied rumours that it was planning to acquire the 13.5 per cent share stake in Fiat now held by the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank. The possibility of a share deal was not ruled out.

Fiat and Ford already have some links, though they are limited. Both are involved in the continuously variable transmission project developed by Van Doorn's Transmision of the Netherlands. In addition, Fiat sells aluminium cast cylinder heads to Ford and to Chrysler through its Teksid division. The Italian company also sells automatic machines to Ford as the U.S. motor industry.

Ford of Europe said yesterday: "We have talks with many other companies and as a matter of policy never comment until there is something hard and fast to discuss."

Jaguar chairman quits, Page 3

Miners' conference Continued from Page 1

Derbyshire and Yorkshire, which are strongly left-led, may also specify an amnesty as a precondition.

The Durham mechanics, whose council meets today, will put no proposal to that meeting following a tied vote on its executive yesterday on the proposal to return to work. The executive felt bound by an earlier decision not to return while some of its members were sacked.

The executive of the Power Group, meeting yesterday, voted to sign the NCB agreement, arguing that by entering into negotiations with the board more it could achieve some form of amnesty for the sacked strikers, while the scale of pit closures would be no worse.

No area, with the possible exception of the tiny militant Kent field, is likely to argue the case for carrying on the fight. There is likely to be an anxious search for the most dignified conclusion, which can be presented to the union's many activists as something short of capitulation.

The notion of returning the issue to area level is less favoured by a number of leading officials, probably including the national officers.

The strike was formally called under Rule 41, which permits area strikes which have received the sanction of the national executive, and it is seen as appropriate, and least damaging to the national leadership, if this mechanism calls it off.

This would allow the executive to argue that its national leaders, Mr Arthur Scargill, the president; Mr Peter Heathfield, general secretary; and Mr Mick McGahey, vice-president, had obeyed the instructions of the union's constituent areas, both in prosecuting the strike and in ending it.

Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, told Nottingham Chamber of Commerce last night that the trade union movement would turn out to owe most to the working miners of Nottinghamshire.

"They struck a great blow for the principles of union democracy when they refused to be browbeaten or terrorised out of their right to go to work, and demanded a ballot instead."

Attack on dollar Continued from Page 1

only if the U.S. Federal Reserve is persuaded to play a more active role.

The Fed's dollar sales this week were thought to be on a larger scale than previously, still relatively insignificant in relation to the overall size of the intervention.

The January rise in the U.S. index of leading economic indicators, which is designed to predict the direction of the economy months ahead, boosted expectations of a solid rise in U.S. output over the first quarter.

The Commerce Department in Washington reported that the index jumped 1.7 per cent in

January after several months in which it was essentially flat.

The Department said that it revised the December data to show a 0.5 per cent fall in the index after a 0.5 per cent rise in November.

The Reagan Administration welcomed the figures as confirmation of its optimism about immediate economic prospects. A White House spokesman said the rise, taken with other economic statistics, showed "the economic horizon is very bright."

Mr Malcolm Baldrige, U.S. Commerce Department Secretary, said that the data "shows renewed upward momentum in

employment and output."

He found particularly encouraging the gains in orders for consumer goods, the component of the index which surged most strongly.

Mr Baldrige noted that the decline in contracts and orders for plant and equipment might be a sign that the strength of the dollar was hurting U.S. capital goods manufacturers.

On Thursday the U.S. Government reported that imports and the trade deficit had begun to rise sharply again.

Though most economists predict 3-4 per cent real growth for the U.S. economy in the first quarter, some now suggest the rise could be as high as 6 per cent.

Wall Street is concerned that with the money supply expanding rapidly, such a rate of growth could lead the Federal Reserve Board to tighten its monetary policy.

WORLDWIDE WEATHER

	Y'day	Y'day	Y'day	Y'day	Y'day
	midday	midday	midday	midday	midday
Algeria	C 12	F 54	Lisbon	C 12	F 54
Algiers	C 22	F 72	Madrid	C 14	F 57
Amman	C 23	F 73	Malaga	C 17	F 63
Athens	C 12	F 54	Melbourne	C 13	F 55
Bahia	C 17	F 63	Mexico	C 16	F 61
Barcelona	C 15	F 59	Montreal	C 10	F 50
Bombay	C 24	F 75	Moscow	C 11	F 52
Buenos Aires	C 14	F 57	Munich	C 11	F 52
Calcutta	C 24	F 75	Nairobi	C 12	F 54
Cardiff	C 12	F 54	Nassau	C 13	F 55
Chennai	C 24	F 75	Newcastle	C 12	F 54
Cairo	C 17	F 63	Nice	C 12	F 54
Canton	C 17	F 63	Osaka	C 12	F 54
Cebu	C 24	F 75	Paris	C 11	F 52
Colon	C 24	F 75	Perth	C 12	F 54
Copenhagen	C 11	F 52	Peking	C 12	F 54
			Prague	C 13	F 55
			Rangoon	C 13	F 55
			Reykjavik	C 10	F 50
			Rome	C 12	F 54
			Sao Paulo	C 12	F 54
			Seoul	C 12	F 54
			Shanghai	C 12	F 54
			Singapore	C 24	F 75
			Sydney	C 12	F 54
			Taipei	C 12	F 54
			Tokyo	C 12	F 54
			Toronto	C 12	F 54
			Winnipeg	C 12	F 54
			Zurich	C 11	F 52

C-Cloudy, D-Drizzle, F-Fair, G-Fog, H-Hail, R-Rain, S-Sunny, SI-Sleet, SN-Snow, T-Thunder.

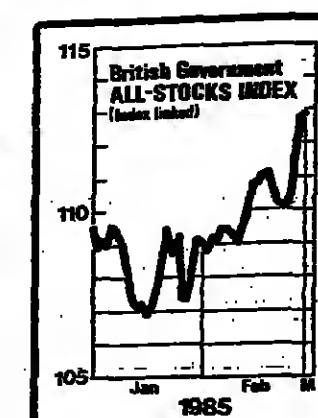
CHIEF PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY

(Prices in pence unless otherwise indicated)		
Applied	140	+23
Holographics	255	+23
British Syphon	133	+11
Bunzl	435	+15
Cowie (T.I.)	50	+4
DRG	189	+9
Fisher (James)	113	+11
Hugh Robinson	278	+7
Horse of Fraser	346	+18
Hunterprint	242	+7
ICI	822	+7
Invent Energy	730	+30
Jackson (J. & H.B.)	84	+7
Oxford Instruments	278	+13
Resources Tech.	40	+6
Vickers	250	+9
Waring & Galloway	140	+23
Williams Higgs	230	+15
Arlen Electrical	71	-4
Berisford (S. & W.)	160	-6
Ferranti	145	-10
Goldsmiths	194	-14
Lloyds Bank	940	-12
Magnet & Southern	118	-10
Mathews (C.A.)	285	-10
Midland Bank	335	-9
NatWest Bank	638	-14
Northern Foods	220	-6
Plessey	182	-6
Rand London	24	-5
Westland	115	-8

THE LEX COLUMN

Industry stands on its rights

Index fell 4.9 to 975.0



Finance directors know a good thing when they see one and the equity market over the past few months has been a very good thing indeed. With the institutions crying out for paper and the FT All-Share Index yielding 4.4 per cent — 10 percentage points less than the cost of one-month money — the finance director can hardly be blamed for ignoring all the text-book stuff about the long-term cost of equity capital and jumping feet first into the rights issue queue.

Yet so many companies are now availing themselves of the market's hospitality that the institutions are beginning to regret having extended such an open invitation. This week ICI and Fisons raised £240m between them, and the market is bracing itself for a bumper issue within the next few days. A heavy cash call from either Barclays or Lloyds is the favourite hypothesis, although some hold folk are even suggesting that a composite insurance company might have the temerity to pass the hat round. Either way, the revival of rights issue activity has already undermined the old arguments about institutional liquidity and stopped the equity market in its tracks.

Guessing which company will be next to ask for capital is an especially tiresome pastime when there is so much else to worry about. Thursday's closing of the bond-washing loophole, carried implications which the gilt-edged market has still not fully sorted out. It is unclear, for example, how far the new preference for low-coupon paper will be reflected in the Government's funding strategy. Yesterday the Government Broker dropped a gentle hint by wheeling out two tranches of indexed stock but there is no reason in theory why he should not experiment with zero-coupon paper. The Government cannot after all be blind to the merits of borrowing money which costs nothing for the time being and is paid back later by someone else.

The battle for Phillips saw the first intervention of the group of state pension funds who have formed the Council of Institutional Investors. While insisting on their fiduciary independence, they seem to have lined up behind the California funds — blooded in the Walt Disney affair — in voting against the plan. It is a chilling thought that some 20 retirement funds, with assets amounting to the not inconsiderable sum of \$100bn, feel the need to form a vigilante band to ensure fair treatment for themselves, let alone all shareholders, but state treasurers have testified in Washington that legislation will either hamstring the market or merely provide fees for lawyers to find loopholes.

This may contain a lesson for those considering the future of the Takeover Panel. As the U.K. equity market becomes

field, whether actual or merely threatened, should be enough to rout the Phillips management. Phillips has done a superlative job in infuriating its institutional shareholders: always dubious whether the recapitalisation plan was really worth \$53 a share, they have voted their proxies in droves against the rag-bag of poison pills, shark repellents, employee share-ownership plans and other devices of self-defence without which few U.S. corporations, now venture into Wall Street after dark.

Presumably, Phillips will now have to improve its plan to something nearer Wall Street's assessment of its worth; Mr Icahn will receive a deal no worse than the \$53 in cash per share guaranteed to Mr T. Boone Pickens; and, honour, if that is the word, will be satisfied. Or that must be the sort of assumption implied in the Phillips share price which is hovering around \$49.

The battle for Phillips saw the first intervention of the group of state pension funds who have formed the Council of Institutional Investors. While insisting on their fiduciary independence, they seem to have lined up behind the California funds — blooded in the Walt Disney affair — in voting against the plan. It is a chilling thought that some 20 retirement funds, with assets amounting to the not inconsiderable sum of \$100bn, feel the need to form a vigilante band to ensure fair treatment for themselves, let alone all shareholders, but state treasurers have testified in Washington that legislation will either hamstring the market or merely provide fees for lawyers to find loopholes.

This may contain a lesson for those considering the future of the Takeover Panel. As the U.K. equity market becomes

more international, it is probable that London will become more like New York, rather than vice-versa — not an appealing prospect for the principle of equal shareholders' rights.

ICI

ICI has finally scotched the rumour that it is planning a rights issue to pay for Beatrice Chemical — by having a vendor placing instead. The idea that ICI would call on all its shareholders for cash always looked a little unlikely. The company feels much the same way about the level of its share price as the Prime Minister does about the value of the pound and it would be hard pressed to justify a major equity financing at a time of such conspicuous cash generation. ICI in any case sets no great store by the pre-emptive right and, by the success of yesterday's operation, has provided as good an advertisement as any for the vendor placing.

The equity parcelled out was nothing substantial by ICI's standards — it increased the issued share capital by just under 3 per cent — but £145.5m was a fair swallow for a market which had seen the ICI price fall almost 5 per cent in a few hours on Thursday and which was already nervous about corporate funding pressures.

Yet everything went as smoothly as could be. The placing price of 82½p was fixed to represent an all-in discount of around 3 per cent to a market price of 84½p. As it turned out, the shares were trading at around 83½p at the time of the placing so ICI escaped with roughly a 2 per cent discount, narrower than it could have achieved across the Atlantic after making allowance for the higher level of U.S. fees. The duration arising from the issue is negligible so, with the share price finishing the day at 84½p, no one had much reason to complain — except of course that the shares stood at 85½p ahead of the figures.

Moreover, ICI can make a useful case for employing equity to help finance Beatrice. Roughly 80 per cent of the \$750m acquisition cost represents goodwill which the group is planning to write straight off against reserves. To have funded the deal entirely from its own resources would have left it with a balance sheet sporting a debt/equity ratio of about 40 per cent. That is by no means extravagant but the three-percentage points of gearing which the group saved yesterday will give it that much more freedom to contemplate further acquisitions. The vendor placing may be overused, but its deployment yesterday was no sin.

9.50%

NET PA

13.57%

GROSS PA

The Chelsea

Capital

Shares

Challenge.

Any building society or bank that can match this interest and include instant withdrawals and the option of a cheque book should speak up now.....

.....Hmmm. Quiet isn't it.

MATCH THIS INTEREST

Investments of £2,500 or more earn a challenging 9.50% net pa. (13.57% gross pa*). And even below this level you can still earn a very competitive 9.00% net pa. (12.66% gross pa*).

INSTANT NO PENALTY WITHDRAWALS

Another remarkable thing is that using your Capital Shares passbook, withdrawals can be made without notice and without penalty at any Chelsea branch.

Please send me full details of the Capital Shares account. To: Chelsea Building Society, FREEPOST, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1BR.

Name _____

Address _____

CHEQUE BOOK OPTION

And more remarkably, Capital Shares can also provide the added convenience of a cheque book for settling those major household bills: electricity, telephone and rates are just a few.

CAPITAL SHARES ACCOUNT

Easy to operate, difficult to challenge.

*Where applicable the effective minimum investment is £2000. Interest is normally subject to income tax and is subject to change without notice. Above rates variable.

Member of the Building Societies Association and the Investors' Protection Scheme. Assets covered £4.4 billion. Trustee status.

CHELSEA BUILDING SOCIETY

It's what the Lion stands for.

هكذا من العمل